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THE *Country* GUIDE

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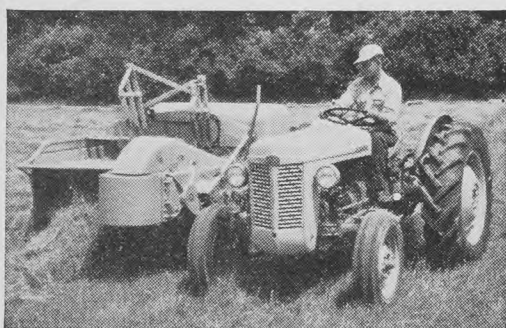
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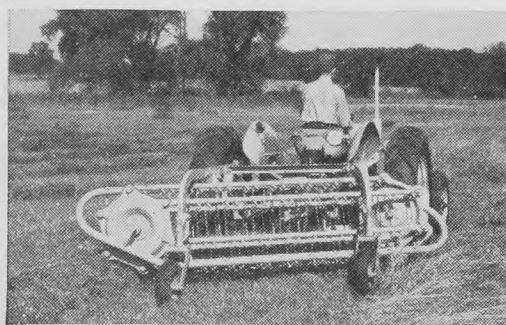
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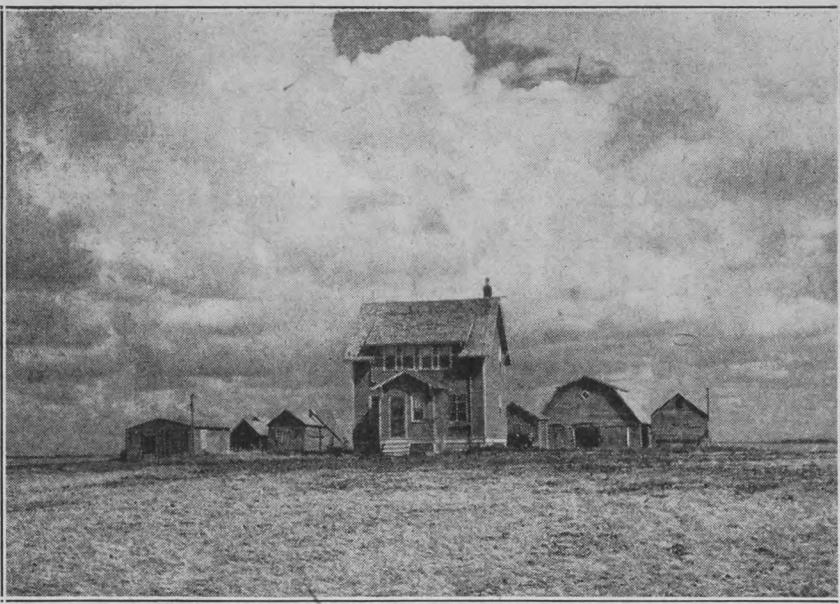
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Gives drives in ratio to tractor *ground* speed, or to tractor *engine* speed. For harvesting, speed is synchronized with the engine; you harvest heavy stands quickly and economically. Put the PTO shift in "ground" position and you get a drive that's always in ratio to ground speed, ideal for operations like raking where uniform distribution of materials is required.

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THE *Country* GUIDE

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JULY, 1955

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Editor: H. S. FRY

Associate Editors: RALPH HEDLIN
C. V. FAULKNER

Field Editor: DON BARON

Extension Director: G. B. WALLACE

Home Editor: AMY J. ROE

Assistant Home Editor: LILLIAN VIGRASS

Advertising Sales Manager: R. J. HORTON

J. E. BROWNLEE, Q.C., President

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Business Manager: J. S. KYLE

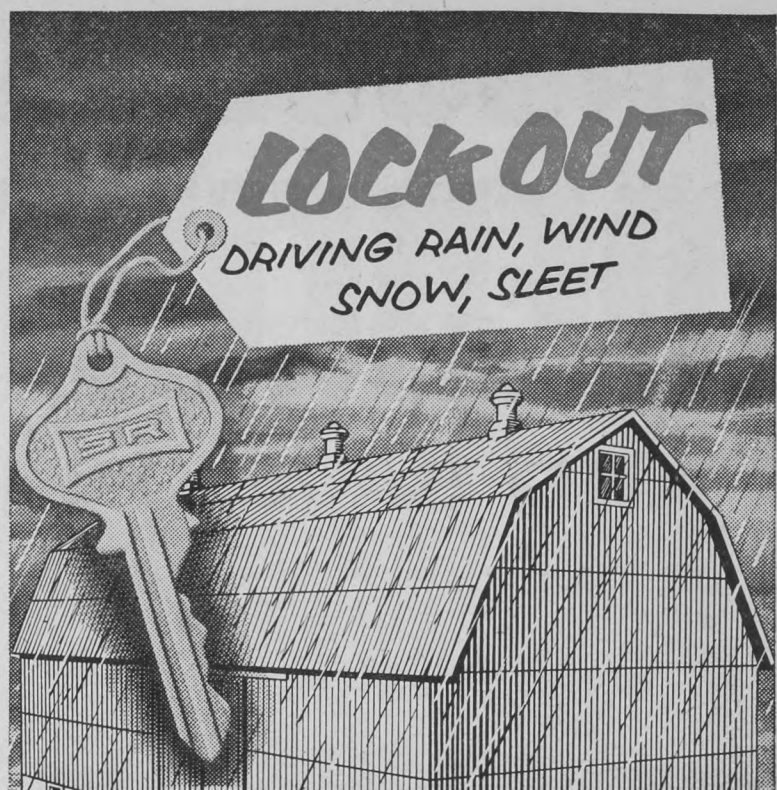
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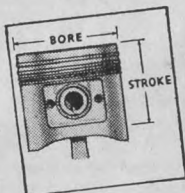
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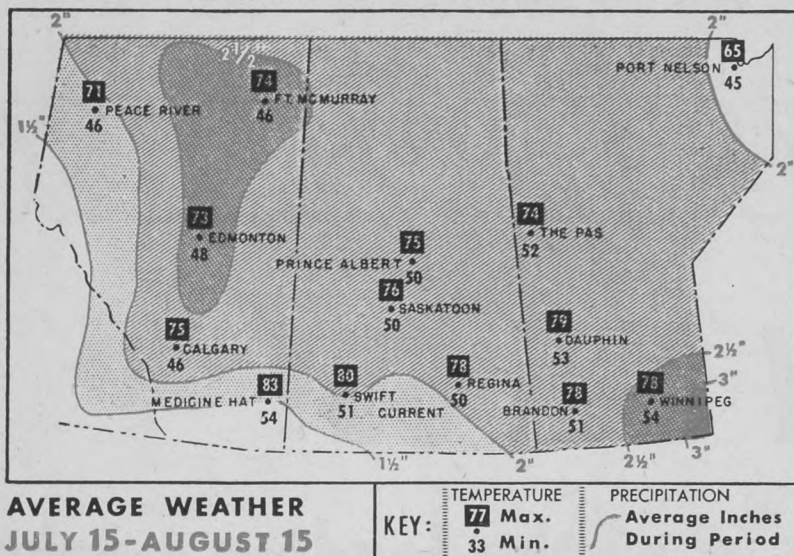
SEE YOUR MERCURY TRUCK DEALER

Prairie Weather

Prepared by DR. IRVING P. KRICK and Staff
for

THE *Country*
GUIDE

(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)

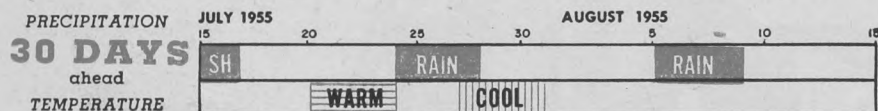


Alberta

Typically seasonable weather will prevail in Alberta through mid-August. No unusually hot or cold spells are anticipated. Highest temperatures will be experienced about July 20 to 25, with a cooling trend thereafter. Rainfall will approximate the historical average and will be reasonably well distributed. Droughty conditions are not expected, except for short duration in very localized sections. In these sections, an interval of about ten days immediately after mid-July will warrant frequent irrigation of sugar beets and other row

crops, where irrigation is feasible. Except for normally dry areas in the south, late July and early August rainfall will be ample to sustain growth of crops. Harvest of small grains will get under way in the southern districts, with no prospects of extended wet spells to impede combining. Excellent hay yields are expected, and pastures and ranges will provide ample forage. Heading and filling of small grains will be enhanced by ample moisture, in central and northern districts.

Except for locally heavy infestations of rust on wheat, crops were in excellent condition at this time last year. ✓

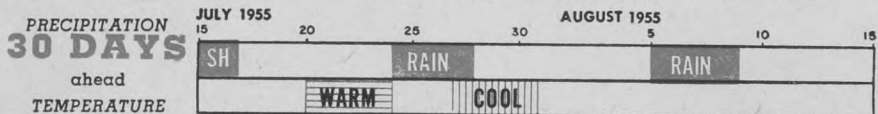


Saskatchewan

Seasonable weather will materialize in Saskatchewan during the forecast interval. Approximately average rainfall is expected, with no extended dry spells. Temperatures will be typically warm, with no great variation, although relatively hot weather will occur about July 20 to 25. Reasonably dry conditions during the first ten days of the period will retard development and spread of rust. Excellent growth of forage crops is anticipated:

hay yields will be high and feed plentiful from pastures. The weather will favor development of small grains, especially where they are heading and filling. A few early-planted fields in the south should be ready for combining by mid-August. Rust is expected in above-average proportions, but not on the order of last year. Continuing heavy rains on the central and southern Great Plains of the U.S. are not helping matters.

Rather wet weather persisted in Saskatchewan at this time last year. ✓

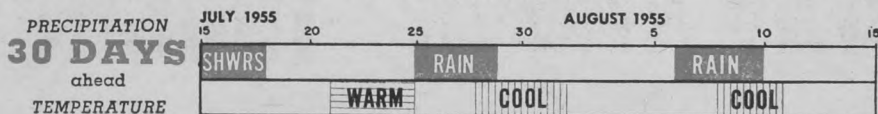


Manitoba

Typical mid-summer weather is in prospect for Manitoba. Temperatures will be quite warm, initially, trending to cooler weather in late July and early August. No unusual departures are anticipated. Rainfall will approximate the season average, with locally heavy amounts at isolated stations. No extended dry periods are likely, but the lack of general rains immediately after mid-July will enhance control of rust. Unseasonably warm weather

to date has advanced grains materially, reducing the threat of severe losses. A fair portion of the small grains in southern districts will be harvested by mid-August. Ample soil moisture and moderate temperatures during the period will facilitate proper filling and ripening. Protein content will probably not come up to average, but yields should be encouraging. Corn, potatoes, and sugar beets will develop nicely.

Crops were generally retarded at this time last year. ✓

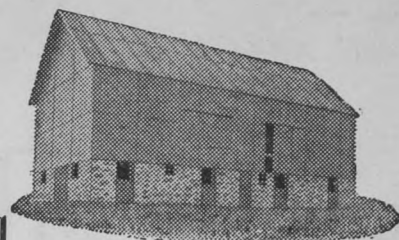


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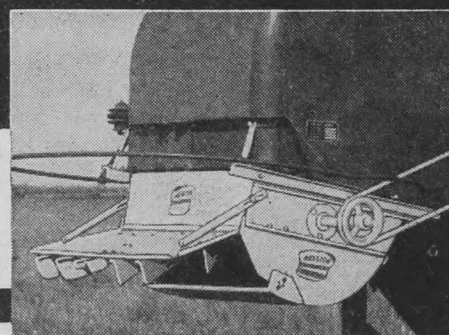
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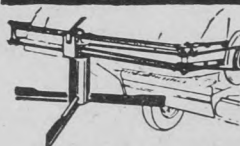
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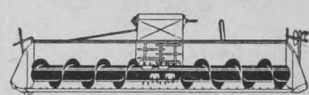
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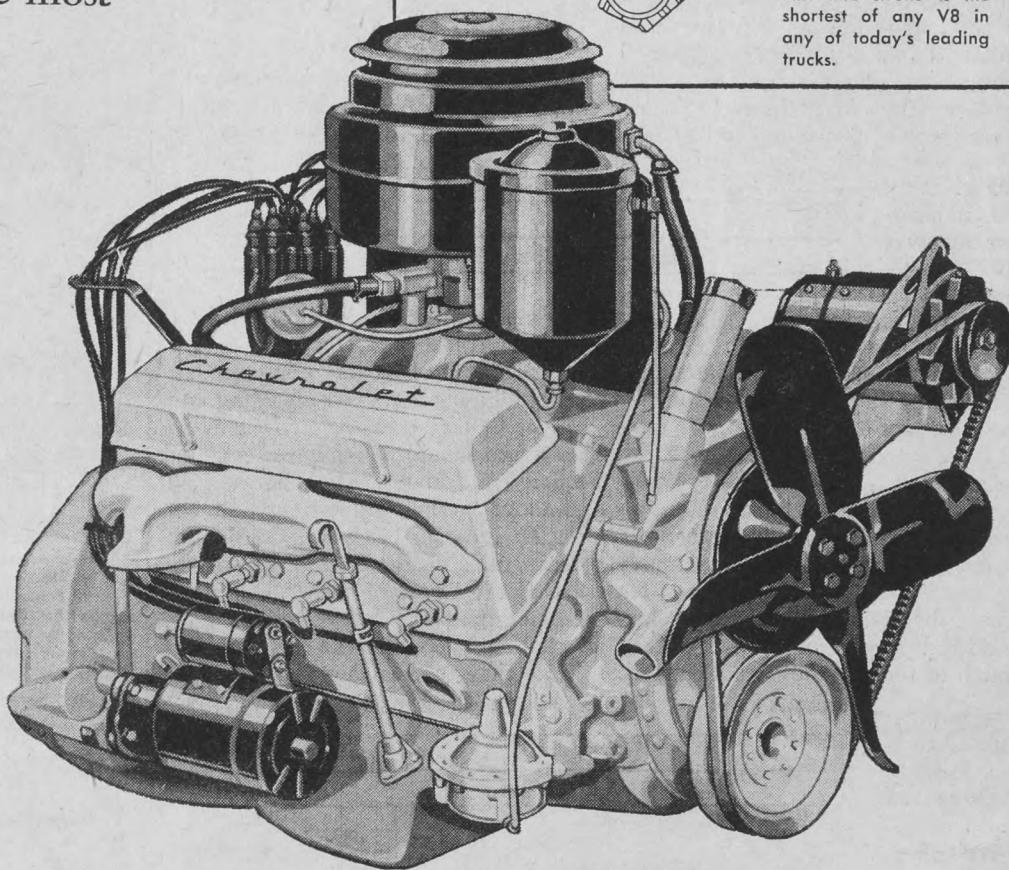
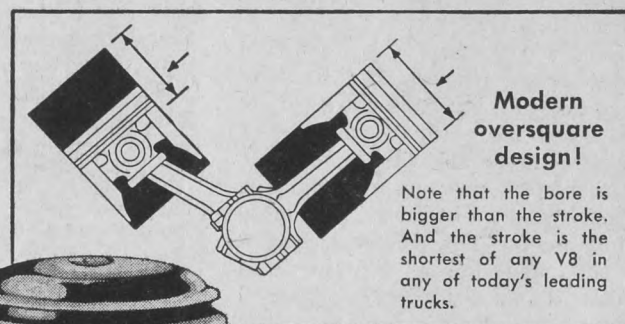
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Benson Speaks to the C.F.A.

The semi-annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture was marked by an outstanding address by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson

by H. S. FRY

IT was very appropriate this year that the semi-annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture should be held in one of the two prairie provinces—Alberta and Saskatchewan—which are this year celebrating their Golden Jubilee. The meeting took place in Regina, June 14-15 and was especially notable for the fact that a public session on June 14 was addressed by Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture for the United States. Mr. Benson, as far as anyone present could recall, is the first U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to speak in Canada during his term of office.

A few days earlier Mr. Benson had spoken in Calgary about what he described as "some of the broader aspects of our mutual agricultural and international challenges." At Regina he discussed some of these challenges in more detail. To say that his Regina speech was the highlight of the C.F.A. semi-annual meeting is no more than fact. The only regrettable aspect of the public session was the comparatively small attendance, which can probably be charged principally to the very late season and the pre-occupation of most farmers with their summerfallowing, after a very much prolonged seeding season.

Mr. Benson was welcomed to the C.F.A. meeting by T. G. Bobier, president of the Saskatchewan Federation of Agriculture; and to the province of Saskatchewan by Premier Douglas, who in his own inimitable fashion must have made Mr. Benson feel very welcome indeed. The speaker was introduced by the Rt. Hon. James G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture, who welcomed him on behalf of the Federal Government and spoke of the very cordial relationships existing between the departments of Agriculture of the two countries.

"The field of our mutual interest in agriculture is vast," said Mr.

Benson, "Both our nations need a sound and prosperous agriculture. If agriculture deteriorates, the whole nation suffers. If agriculture goes forward, the whole nation is given new opportunity for progress."

In 1953, he said, the value of trade, both as to imports and exports by the United States from and to Canada, was not only several times larger than to any other country, but greater than its imports from, or exports to, all of the nations of Europe combined. For agricultural products, Canada is the best outlet the U.S. has for citrus fruits; and other large items are fruits and fresh vegetables, vegetable oils and fats, soy beans, corn and cotton. The U.S. in turn, imports our live cattle, meat and meat products, feed grains and mill feeds, as well as seeds, malting barley and seed potatoes.

In 1952 the U.S. took \$281 million worth of our agricultural products and \$309 million worth in 1953. In the same years we imported \$259 million worth in 1952, and \$246 million worth in 1953. Our trade with each other in 1954 totalled about \$600 million, divided about evenly between the two countries.

The Secretary thought that even more fundamental bases of agreement lay in the independence of the farmers of both countries. Both love freedom, and want nothing more than a fair chance to make a decent living. Both countries farm free enterprise: both need multilateral trade relations. Both are hard currency countries; and each is able to help the other. Both peoples want to retain the extremely friendly relationships which have characterized the past. "These," said the Secretary, "are some of the many reasons why I look for the economies of our respective countries . . . to become even more closely associated in the future."

"Admittedly," he said, "we are competitors and shall remain competi-

tors in certain important phases of agriculture: wheat and flour, dairy products, apples, canned fruits, flue-cured tobacco, and some other commodities, but there is no reason why we should not set an example for the world of friendly competition."

"Both our countries," Mr. Benson said, "thought it necessary to resort, from time to time, to export subsidies and import restriction to protect their own producers and industries. These must not be allowed to become a source of misunderstanding." If this was to be avoided, he thought that we must not be afraid to talk facts frankly and bluntly, against a backdrop of mutual trust.

THE Secretary explained that the United States had been forced to set up import quotas on some farm commodities such as oats, barley and rye, but had sought to make the quotas as generous as possible. The barley quota of 27.5 million bushels was high enough to take care of imports in nine of the ten preceding years. "It now appears," he said, "that the quota will not even be filled." Of the quota for oats at 40 million bushels he was able to say that "this quota definitely will not be filled."

The rye quota was higher than the amounts imported in five of the past ten years. It was practically filled within a fortnight, and was "only a small fraction of what we imported in 1953-54." In explanation of why quotas are imposed Mr. Benson quoted an editorial in the Financial Post which said: "In reality, Canadian producers were getting almost full benefit of these official American support prices without contributing one cent as taxpayers to the huge subsidies charged to the U.S. Treasury." "In other words," said Mr. Benson, "we have import quotas on these commodities to keep our markets from being flooded with imported crops, while our own production would be going into storage."

With respect to wheat, the Secretary said that the policy of his government was to compete fairly but aggressively in the world grain market. Probable U.S. wheat exports during the current crop year will be about 250 million bushels, as compared with about 275 millions for Canada. He pointed out that Canada had exceeded this total only four times in the past decade, whereas United States would be shipping only about three-fourths as much as had been averaged for the nine preceding years. He thought Canada was doing a better job of disposing of wheat than the United States.

"But let me say this again," he said. "We are not engaging in any cutthroat race for markets—and we have no intention of doing so. We do feel that our fair share of the world wheat market is something more than the 250 million bushels we are exporting this marketing year, and we hope to boost



U.S. Secretary of Agriculture
Ezra Taft Benson

our total—always by fair means—in the years ahead."

Of other international relationships, Mr. Benson said: "Oftentimes, co-operation between the United States and Canada on agricultural problems can be decisive in making an international conference a success. Canada occupies a highly important place in international trade conferences—indeed, a place that is out of proportion to population, but not at all disproportionate to your area, resources, and capacity for leadership. I congratulate your government and your people on a very fine history of great leadership in such conferences. I congratulate you also on your aggressive and well organized trade promotion and information organization. It is world-wide and extremely efficient."

TURNING to the question of surpluses and their origin, Mr. Benson referred, first to the urgency of war-time production and the postwar need for food in overseas countries, as well as the need created by the Korean struggle. Now demand had slackened. Farm production in both countries has been larger than domestic and export markets would take, at current prices. "In the U.S.," Mr. Benson said, "many of our current difficulties can be traced in large part to the policy of high, rigid price support—an emergency-conceived policy that was continued long after the emergency had passed. The arguments of proponents of rigid supports, namely, that high supports were needed to help agriculture; that they would promote prosperity; that rigid supports would foster efficiency; and would produce the kind of abundance the nation needed, had been disproved. That they do not promote prosperity is proved by the fact that farmers are not sharing as they should in U.S. national prosperity, notwithstanding the fact that the government has an investment of over \$7 billion in price support operations.

"Experience proves," he said, "that rigid supports do not foster efficiency, unless it is considered efficient to price commodities out of their markets, or
(Please turn to page 30)



Rt. Hon. James G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture, is a regular visitor to C.F.A. meetings. Right: Dr. H. H. Hannam, C.F.A. president.



Rowe and Les Harris have spent nearly 30 years in farming in the Peace River district, much of it specializing in the growing of creeping red fescue for seed.

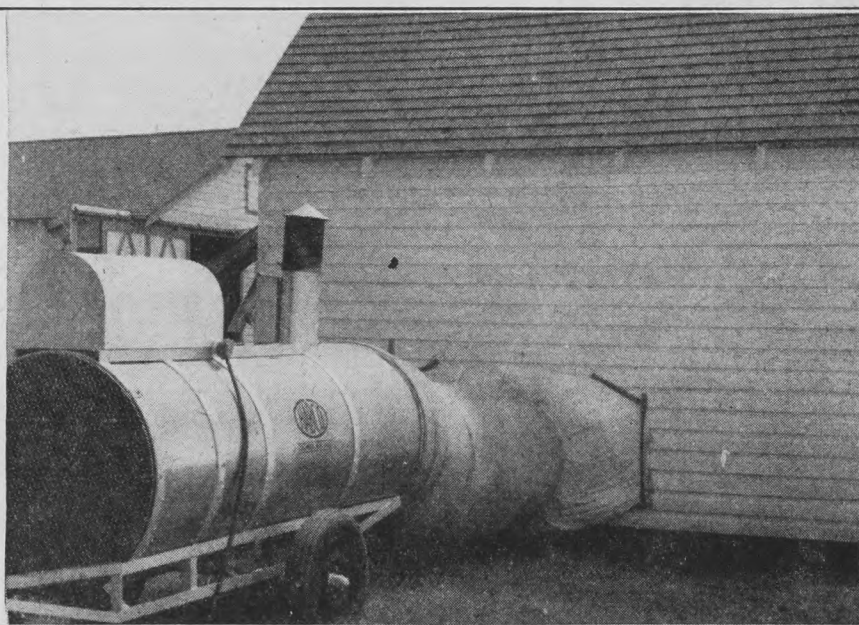
[Guide photos]

Seed Growing Is Their Business

Arriving late in the Peace River district, the Harris brothers soon pioneered in the growing of creeping red fescue as a seed crop



Rowe examines the fast-ripening crop with an experienced eye. Creeping red fescue is a good cash crop for the district and a valuable soil stabilizer.



Once bagged and safely binned the seed is dried by this drier which pushes warm air continuously through the bin until the seed achieves optimum condition.

IT is late July. A few miles south of Beaverlodge, Alberta, a cluster of buildings sits idly in the sun. Surrounding them is the 2,450-acre farm owned by the brothers, Les and Rowe Harris. In the sun-bathed fields, a rich farm crop is nearly ripe. Soon barn doors will open, and combines, tractors, trucks and a swather will lumber out and head for the fields. The busiest two weeks of the year will be under way. Presently, however, the peaceful scene does not betray the sense of urgency soon to overtake the farm.

It's creeping red fescue country, and the Harrises, with 800 acres ready to harvest, will likely be bagging the biggest crop of the valuable seed in Canada. Ten men will work early and late, for a strong wind could strip the waving heads, once

they are ripe. Six tractors will be going. Four combines, specially equipped with canvas tables and bagging platforms, will be biting into the fields. The giant machine shed, said to be the biggest in the Peace and actually a transplanted airplane hangar, will soon be holding the bags of fescue seed. A few days later, the huge air fan of the seed drier will hum almost continuously in the yard, as it drives warm air up through the perforated steel platform to finally dry the bags of seed above. By fall or winter, the crop will be ready for sale.

by DON BARON

It's a valuable crop too, one that has spread to many farms in the Peace. Though it hasn't challenged the dollar leadership of wheat, its estimated value in 1953 was nearly one-and-three-quarter million dollars. It was a healthy sum added to the \$30,000,000 earned by wheat. Fescue also boasts an additional value hard to assess in dollars and cents. It brought diversification to much of the farm land that was being depleted from continual cropping. Though a comparative newcomer, measured against the cereal crop veterans, it pointed the way in a swing to forage crops. Much of its story can be seen, and, in fact, has been made, on the farm of the Harris brothers at Beaverlodge. But the district itself sells three-quarters of Canada's entire production. (Please turn to page 28)



This tornado (left) formed half a mile west of the Butt farm at Mantario, in west central Saskatchewan. The splinters and trash in the picture on the right are the remnants of buildings that were demolished by the storm.

When Disaster Strikes . . .

by
RALPH
HEDLIN

Wind, hail and fire, shown on this page, came and upset the plans of these farmers

"GOOD morning" and "nice day" have become almost interchangeable terms. Weather undoubtedly leads all other subjects as a topic of western Canadian conversation—probably because here Mother Nature is a rather fickle parent. In the morning she may be friendly and comforting, in the afternoon she may destroy your crops and buildings, and the next morning she may be bland again. She may nudge a crop in the direction of a profitable harvest and, in a sudden change of mood, slash and trample and batter and destroy that which she has worked hard to build.

J. F. Libke, who farms six miles north of Hanley, Saskatchewan, can confirm this, if confirmation is needed. He seeded his 1954 crop with high hopes, but three separate attacks tore hopes and crops to pieces.

It started with the rust. As the rust grew stronger and the crop grew weaker the sawfly moved in and started preharvest cutting. Then one late evening in early August both rust and sawfly were robbed of their sadistic sport; a slashing hailstorm wiped out the crop.

Libke had the last laugh—at least, he had the last sickly smile. He carried \$10-an-acre hail insurance on his 400 acres of crop.

On the same day another storm was causing more heartbreak than laughter at the Simpson,

Right: J. F. Libke, Hanley, Saskatchewan, looks at the straw that had been a crop before the hailstorm.



Saskatchewan, home of Florent Dulle. The Dulle carried no insurance on their 1,200 acres of crop. A stormhead heaved and rolled over the western horizon. Hailstones started to pitch down at 10 o'clock at night, and by 10:30 all the crop in a strip five miles wide and nine miles deep was a worthless mixture of mud and broken straw. The entire 1,200 crop acres of the Dulle farm lay in this storm-swept block.

Another wing of the same storm swept over the Robinson boys' farm, 12 or 15 miles west and north of Simpson; Thomas and Bob Robinson started farming on their own quite recently and could ill-afford the damage done to 500 acres of their crop. Neighbors Chris Harper and his sons Thomas and Richard also suffered unanticipated and unwelcome damage.

HAIL, like rust, drought, grasshoppers, sawfly and a dozen other causes of loss, must be considered natural hazards. Wind is also a natural cause, but a tornado making an uninvited call and tearing buildings apart must be regarded as a very "unnatural" type of natural visitor. Yet, late one afternoon last July, the Butt farm at Mantario, in west central Saskatchewan, had just such a caller.

This tornado was no slouch either. The air half a mile west of the Butt buildings formed itself into a destructive, spinning funnel and, with deadly precision, advanced toward the farmyard. Mrs. Fred Butt was in one of the two houses, but no one was in the yard. Son (Please turn to page 25)



Left: Russ Gregory, St. Norbert, Manitoba, woke early one midwinter morning to find his barn and piggery in flames. Right: Florent Dulle had no harvest on his 1,200 acres of crop at Simpson, Saskatchewan, after a hailstorm visited the farm. The combines in the background—and Dulle—have to wait for a better year.

New Zealand Farms from the Air

AMAZING progress in the use of aircraft for farming has been made in New Zealand during recent years, and substantial results in the way of increased production are already evident. An extra £50 million to £100 million on annual farm income is expected, ultimately, from the new techniques; and these can be adapted to the farm practices of other countries.

The first commercial flights for farm work in New Zealand were made in 1949, after much experimental work by a specially formed flight of the Royal New Zealand Air Force. By the end of that year five private companies had started operation; by early 1954, 40 companies with upwards of 170 planes were engaged regularly in aerial farm servicing.

In the year ending March 31, 1953, one-fifth of all fertilizer delivered to New Zealand farmers was distributed from the air. Though it is not expected that the same high rate of increase will be maintained, the amazing growth in this type of operation is best illustrated by figures. For the year ended March 31, 1950, only 5,000 tons of fertilizer were distributed by air, over 48,740 acres. During 1950-51, a total of 428,740 acres were fertilized in this way. During the following year this acreage was doubled; and 144,800 tons of fertilizer were distributed over 1,376,000 acres in 1952-53.

Two main causes account for this development: one is the hilly-to-mountainous nature of most New Zealand terrain; and the other is a widespread deficiency of available phosphorus in the soil. This mineral deficiency has required the continuous use of extensive top-dressings of phosphatic fertilizer, mostly superphosphate, to maintain the productivity of existing New Zealand pastures, and to bring new land into production.

On level country such applications can be made quite conveniently from the ground. But it has been noted that the great expansion of New Zealand's farm produce over the past 40 years—a sevenfold increase in butter, a 20-fold increase in cheese, and a threefold increase in meat—is largely the result of improvements to only about 7,000,000 acres of plowable land.

There are in New Zealand thousands of acres of low country still to be developed, and at least ten million acres of low hill country, not being topdressed, which would respond to treatment. Furthermore, only a small amount of what may be termed developed lands are at, or even near, the level of maximum possible production.

In the past, the obstacles in the way of topdressing New Zealand hill country have been formidable. First there was the cost, in many areas, of a long haul by sea or rail from the fertilizer works; then the long distance over inadequate roads between farms and the port or railhead. Lastly came the difficulty of carting the heavy material by sledge or pack-horse into the



Airplanes are ideal for distributing fertilizer on rough, inaccessible grazing land.

Since 1949, airplanes have become increasingly effective for spreading fertilizer, distributing rabbit poison and for crop dusting and spraying

by A. L. KIDSON

hills, and sowing it there by laborious hand methods. At times, also, there have been shortages of fertilizer, when war and other circumstances hindered the importation of its main ingredients.

TO date, the aerial farm techniques developed in New Zealand aim mostly at ease and cheapness in the spreading of phosphate manures; and where it once took a farmer three months to sow, say, 120 tons of fertilizer on his back country, aircraft can now do the work for him, and for his neighbors at the same time, in just a few days. In the closer-settled areas, community landing strips are laid

down by groups of neighboring farmers, so that all their properties can be serviced at the one operation. In that way they use the advantages of bulk-purchase, community transport, and co-operative labor.

Hundreds of such landing-strips, averaging about 500 to 600 yards in length, and ranging in cost from about £100 to £2,000, have now been laid down on New Zealand farmlands. They are used, of course, by the lighter type planes—mostly Tiger Moths—and they have led to some remarkable manuring records. From one such strip, 650 yards long, a De Havilland Beaver, working from

7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on a mid-winter day, sowed 115 tons of fertilizer on 1,150 acres of hill country.

For this operation the plane made 125 circuits of from five to six miles each, carrying payloads of nearly a ton. In better country, one such aircraft, operating from a community landing-strip can lay 140 tons of super in a day; two planes from the same strip can spread 200 tons a day, at an all-in cost well below that of hand-spreading. On smaller jobs, 20 tons have been laid in one hour and 20 minutes, equalling 15 tons per hour.

Standard practice is for two pilots to fly alternately on two-hour shifts. Profits for the contracting firm depend on maximum flying time and a quick turn-round; which has been cut to as low as one minute from touch-down to take-off. To speed up loading, the New Zealanders have designed a quick-fire boom mechanism, which meets the plane as it rolls to a stop, and fills the aircraft's hopper in one automatic operation. This takes a matter of seconds. Discharge of the load requires only a few minutes: therefore, a normal time for a topdressing plane to take off, drop its load, and re-align on the landing-strip, is only five or six minutes. This varies, of course, with the distance of the air-strip from the target area.

MAIN considerations, for both the pilot and the landholder, are an even spread and accurate placement of the load on the target area. At the start of operations the pilot is briefed by an official of his employing firm, usually in consultation with the farmer, who prepares a sketch map. This shows areas and specifications, i.e., where the manure is to be spread, and at what concentration.

From two to three hundredweight per acre is the normal rate for superphosphate in New Zealand, and both for evenness and accuracy the aerial method is giving general satisfaction. The standard pulverized type of fertilizer still mostly used there, sometimes involves a slight loss from wind-drift; but this will be overcome when the makers get around to selling a pelleted product. A more concentrated form than the standard 20 per cent superphosphate would also be better for aerial application.

In this work much depends on the skill of the pilots. Many are veterans with war-flying experience; but New Zealand aero clubs, and a number of commercial companies are now training up a corps of adventurous youngsters for this highly specialized work. Risk is involved in flying at low levels over rugged hill country, where turbulence is common and landing fields are not the smoothest; but despite all the hazards, the accident rate is low, and fatalities during actual operations are rare.

Because of their cheapness and availability after the war, De Havilland Tiger Moth planes have done most of the
(Please turn to page 31)



Speed means economy, and this boom hopper enables the aircraft hopper to be filled in a few seconds as the plane rolls to a stop.

Jeff rode into the hills with anger in him. The ghost which haunted his life with Beth wouldn't leave. Would Matt remember his words that last time, or that Jeff had said, "If you run, you'll have to keep on running and you'll have to run alone"

by FRANCIS CHASE, JR.



Beth on the porch screamed. I did not have time to hear. She was just as wrong now as she had ever been.

BROOMSTICK laid back his ears and started acting funny when we got in close to the house, but the first I knew that anything was wrong was when we topped the south ridge. Then I spotted the strange buckskin in the corral where I'd left Lightning that morning. This buckskin was still breathing hard and even from that distance you could see his sides, glistening with sweat in the sun, working like a bellows. There wasn't a sign of Lightning anywhere.

I pulled Broomstick up short atop the ridge and studied the layout. The wind worried at the piece of dangling rain-spout I hadn't yet found time to fix, and on the back porch, Beth was stooped over a tub of washing. A thin column of smoke spiraled upward from the chimney.

Except for the strange horse, everything looked like it always looked, and the way I'd begun to figure things out, that made sense.

Broomstick was tired—we'd covered a lot of territory since dawn, looking for stray calves in the buffalo grass and dry gullies of the flats—so I eased him down the steep slope, all the while keeping my eyes open. When I turned Broomstick into the corral, I could see the buckskin was badly lamed.

There was a thin trickle of blood, red and fresh, on the front porch, leading from the steps to the screen door, and I knew that could add up, too. On the way through the hall to the kitchen, I looked in the bedroom. But, like I thought with Lightning being gone, there was no one there.

In the kitchen, a dish of cold beans and sow-belly and a platter of biscuits were set on the table. I went through the kitchen and out on the back porch.

Beth went on scrubbing, the blue jeans making a rasping noise against the ribs of the scrub-board.

"Your dinner's on the table, Jeff," she said, not looking up. I waited for her to say something else—she'd have to sooner or later—but there was only the sound of wind whistling up over the edge of the canyon and noise the blue jeans made against the scrub-board.

"Someone's made off with Lightning, Beth. Left a beat-up buckskin in the corral in his place."

She stopped scrubbing then and opened her mouth as if she was going to say something. But she didn't. I waited a few more minutes, then went back through the hall to the bedroom and strapped on my gun belt.

I saw that there was blood on the pillow case and a few drops on the carpet. When I came out in the hall, Beth was standing there watching me.

"Don't you want no dinner, Jeff?"

Her eyes were glued to the guns, to the glistening hard mahogany of their long butts.

"And let some horse thief get plumb out of the country with Lightning?" I asked. I looked at the cold food. "It'll be just as good when I get back."

We both knew she wasn't bothered about my dinner. I didn't have much appetite right then. She put her hand on my arm and even then I could feel the tingle I always felt when she touched me.

"You gotta give him a chance, Jeff. You just got to."

"So it was Matt?" This time she didn't have to answer. Whenever we had trouble, it would be Matt a-bringing it. "I told him the last time not to

come back and I meant it." I started for the door, but she got in front of me.

"He's bad hurt, Jeff, and they're after him, hard, from over Sunset way. He came h—here for help."

She had started to say that he came home for help. I wished she'd left it that way.

"Sunset?" I asked. "What's he been doing in Sunset?"

Her eyes were on the cracks in the floorboards and when she finally answered, her voice was old and tired. There were deep lines in her face and I noticed how white her hair was getting. It's funny how you can live with a person day after day and never notice things like that and then, all of a sudden, see

how old they've grown. I felt sick all over again.

"There was a holdup. Matt was a stranger in town so they said as how it was him that did it. He's got a bad hole in his chest, Jeff, they're riding after him hard."

I said, "Once you start running you got to keep on running." I was sorry I'd said it the moment the words left

look at Beth's face when I started for the corral.

"You hate him!" she screamed after me, her fury flaring up sudden, like a plains norther on a warm day. "You always hated Matt! You hate him because he's Jim's boy—not yours. You hate him because he's like Jim. You never gave him a chance—"

There was no use to stand there and argue when she was like that, not with Matt on a fresh horse with a head start and me on old Broomstick, who was already winded.

I SADDLED Broomstick in the corral and all the while Beth leaned against a post on the porch screaming at me. The wind made a whistling noise over the lip of the canyon and I couldn't hear half of what she was saying. But I didn't have to hear. It wasn't the first time she'd said it, though she was just as wrong now as she'd ever been.

"You always wanted him to turn out bad, putting guns in his hand when he was just a baby—"

I opened the corral gate, shooed the buckskin out across the meadows so they wouldn't find him in the corral if they came before I got back, and climbed up into the saddle. As I cut through the meadow toward the hills, I could hear Beth crying and laughing as if her heart would break.

The trail was fresh and easy enough to follow on the flats, but I knew that I had to catch up with Matt in the rimrock before

sunset or I'd never catch him. The boy was like his father. He knew how to get the most out of a horse and he knew how to take care of himself in open country. There was something else Matt knew—what a pair of Colts was for. He was quicker on the draw

my tongue. "You let the boy go, knowing he was bad hurt?"

"They'd get him here, Jeff. A man was killed in the bank and they wouldn't give Matt a chance if they caught him."

I COULD feel the anger rise in me. My throat and then my face got warm as the blood rose. I could stand out on the porch and halloo and the echo would go on and on, bouncing off the canyon walls and repeating itself through the hills, and this was like the echo. It would keep on repeating itself unless I could put a stop to it once and for all.

This was the way it had been with Jim Slater, Matt's father. He was wild as a hill colt and before he'd dragged himself back to Beth to die, with enough lead in his belly to sink a battleship, he'd worried her old and grey. Now the boy was doing the same thing all over again.

I turned away, but she must have seen the anger that was in me because she followed me out to the front porch, thinking I was mad because Matt had come back when it was really only because of what Matt was doing to her. Jim Slater was like a ghost who wouldn't leave. I wondered if we'd ever be rid of him. I couldn't



than his father and his eye was every bit as good.

That didn't make me feel any too easy in my mind, riding after him like that. The kid was hurt and scared and he'd have an itchy trigger finger for anything that tried to trail him. But even if he recognized me in time, I couldn't be sure it would make too much difference. He'd be weighing in his mind all the things I'd done for

(Please turn to page 32)

Illustrated by J. H. Petrie

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Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

THE Dominion Bureau of Statistics has reported a drop of nearly seven per cent in the cash income of Canadian farmers for the first quarter of this year, as compared with the corresponding period of 1954, while the figure is 15 per cent below the all-time high for a first quarter, established in 1952. Much smaller wheat participation payments and lower returns from the sale of oats and hogs are found responsible by the Bureau, and the three prairie provinces figure prominently in the drop.

And as is also only too evident, there has been a fall in farmers' purchasing power, going back to 1951, with the most severe change again occurring in the West. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture calculates the decline for all Canada as being 50 per cent, from just four years ago.

These are not the only reasons, but they are certainly most important ones, why parliament and the government are watching with considerable uneasiness the shaping of trade policy in the United States. There is apparent a steadily intensifying struggle in that country between out-and-out protectionists and supporters of an enlightened program. On the whole, the Eisenhower administration belongs to the second group, and it is a powerful ally for Canada to have. For the President has by no means given in docilely to every pressure. Even the U.S. Tariff Commission, with fairly well defined protectionist leanings, has been known to come out on the side of the angels, as it did recently in refusing additional help to the domestic hardwood plywood industry; the Commission said it didn't need the protection.

BUT the demands for barriers against this or that product from Canada and other lands are unremitting. Any industry pleading that it is being hurt by imports, has the backing of powerful blocs in Congress, and if it can put up any kind of a plausible case that its welfare is essential to national defence, so much the better for the chances of that industry getting what it wants.

The new Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, loaded with gimmicks and escape clauses, doesn't offer too much encouragement to countries with which the U.S. may be seeking to make deals for mutual tariff concessions. In its shadow lurks the Tariff Commission, whose one or two good deeds (from a Canadian point of view) are hardly enough to invite vast confidence. The President, it is true, might override or modify the decisions of this body as he has done on a number of past occasions. His powers in this matter, however, have been somewhat curtailed, and the high tariff people in Congress will undoubtedly try to curb them still more in 1956, should his future actions not be to their liking.

Canadian farmers have had too many unpleasant experiences with restric-



tions at Washington to be indifferent about this struggle.

They have friends at the American capital, and among these no doubt can be counted the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Ezra Benson, in spite of actions which would seem to point in the opposite direction. Mr. Benson's recent Regina speech has aroused some interest here, as further evidence that the U.S. administration, whatever elements in Congress may want, believes in fair competition in world markets, and also in reasonable conditions of entry into the American market.

Several Canadian farm products have been hit by import quotas because of the American high price-support policy, and Canadian wheat sales are being affected abroad, on account of that same policy. So Ottawa is hoping that Mr. Benson and his colleagues can be successful in attempts to work toward a more realistic support program. The Secretary's own opinion of what he has inherited may be gauged from his remark at Regina that perhaps "your leaders can profit by our experience and avoid some of the pitfalls into which we have tumbled."

The Canadian government likes to hear comments of that kind, for, in the face of declining farm income, it has been under pressure in some quarters to adopt a high support policy too. The government has shown no signs of yielding up to now, and it seems improbable that it will do so. Rather, it will most likely continue to go along with the Agricultural Prices Support Act and with the Canadian Wheat Board Act, both of which offer floors of a modest kind, but without the incentives to accumulate surpluses of the order that now plague the United States.

But should protection in its various guises get complete ascendancy in the U.S., anything might happen in this country, including a drift back to the tariff structure of the thirties. Agriculture might be granted increased support in the process, but whether this basic industry, or any of the others, would be net gainers, is a matter of conjecture. Majority opinion here is that they would be very much the opposite, and government policy continues to be shaped accordingly—that is, away from rather than toward restriction of trade.

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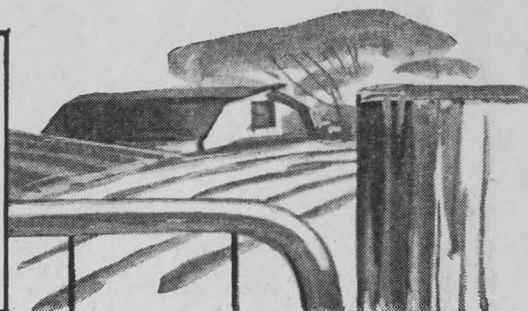
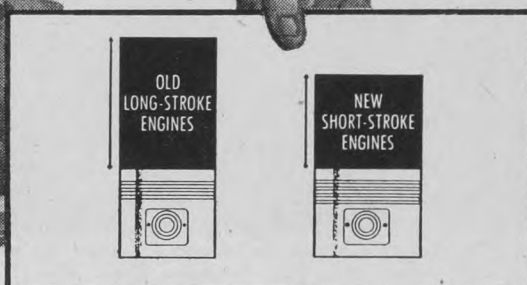
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NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



Three of the Robertson Associates who attended the annual meeting of the C.S.G.A. at Vernon, B.C.: Roy Graham, Olds, Alta.; Gordon South, Whittome, Sask.; and Stan Ingham, Balcarres, Sask.

Seed Growers Meet at Vernon

Bad weather plagued the 1954 seed crop across Canada but growers laud plant breeders for new varieties they have provided

THE 1955 annual meeting of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association held in Vernon, B.C., June 15 to 17, re-elected President James Farquharson of Zealandia, Sask., for a second term. In his address, Mr. Farquharson commended the action of the Canada Department of Agriculture last fall when it prohibited the export of Selkirk wheat, and heartily endorsed the government's distribution policy. He also extended to the plant breeders the appreciation of the Association for their contribution to the Canadian economy.

"The introduction of Selkirk wheat, Rodney and Garry 27 oats, and the performance of these varieties under the severe conditions of last year stands out as a shining monument to their untiring efforts," he said.

Winners of nine Robertson Associate medals awarded at the annual meeting were Roy J. Graham, Olds, Alta.; Stanley Ingham, Balcarres, Sask.; Gordon South, Whittome, Sask.; James L. Parker, Gilbert Plains, Man.; J. M. McCrindle, Foxwarren, Man.; Douglas Hart, Woodstock, Ont.; Amos C. Porter, Jarvis, Ont.; Clark Young, Milliken, Ont., and T. Albert Hicken, Alliston, P.E.I. The names of two deceased members, Nelson Young, Ottawa, Ont., and Frank Choveaux, Okanagan Landing, B.C., were placed on the Association's honor roll as being eligible for the Robertson award had they been alive.

Reviewing last year's seed crop harvest, provincial directors reported generally poor weather conditions across the country at seed set and harvest time. In B.C., the total value of field seeds grown last year showed a drop of 18.8 per cent from that of 1953. Alfalfa and double-cut red clover production was the smallest in years, and sugar beet production was down by 50 per cent. Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba reported

serious reductions in grain seed yields due to abnormally low temperatures, wetness, and rust. In Ontario, the results were varied. Hurricane Hazel, and a wet harvest, ruined hundreds of acres of white beans, clover seed, soybeans, and corn, but there was a surprisingly large harvest of pedigreed oats, barley, and winter wheat. Quebec and the Maritimes, experienced cool, wet conditions in the spring which delayed seeding and caused a reduction in yields. Most provinces expressed concern over exchange rate difficulties that were pricing Canadian seed growers out of soft currency markets.

Thursday morning, delegates heard M. B. Davis, retired chief of the Horticultural Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, speak on "The Past, Present, and Future of Vegetable Seed Production in Canada." Other special speakers included Dr. E. R. Jackman, range specialist of Oregon State College, and Guy Shumway, a prominent forage seed producer from McMinnville, Oregon.

New Facilities For Rust Research

A NEW agricultural research laboratory is being built by the Science Service of the Canada Department of Agriculture, at the University of Manitoba at a cost of about \$650,000. To be ready by January, 1957, the building will provide laboratory and office space for a staff of 75 plant pathologists, cereal breeders, chemists, and entomologists who will investigate the agricultural pests and diseases of the area. But the main research problem will be the rusts that take such heavy toll of western grain crops.

The new building will be located across the drive from the present rust research laboratory, and it will be con-

nected to the latter by a walk-through tunnel under the street. Construction will be of steel and concrete, faced with brick, and space provided for two floors of laboratory rooms, and a basement containing photographic rooms, controlled temperature rooms, and workshops. The building is also designed so that an additional wing may be added when required.

With construction of the new facilities will come an intensification of the rust research program begun by the Department of Agriculture in the old premises in 1925. During those years, annual rust losses in this country ran all the way from 40 million to 100 million bushels, but after the first rust-resistant varieties became widely distributed in 1938, the spring wheat crop of western Canada suffered no serious loss from stem rust until Race 15B rust struck last year. Although Selkirk wheat (now in commercial production) should go a long way in providing protection against Race 15B, there is no guarantee it will provide a permanent solution to the stem rust problem, for new rust races that can attack this wheat have already been found in trace amounts.

In the light of the continuous threat from new rust varieties, it became apparent to the government that rust investigations must be continued and expanded. The new laboratory will ensure more working space and better facilities for our plant scientists in their never-ending fight.

Army Cutworms On the March

REPORTS from southern Alberta state that there has been considerable damage to crops by army cutworms for the first time in years. In the Coutts, Milk River, Lethbridge, Hays, and Bow Island areas, the insects have attacked alfalfa, flax, and commercial mustard, but there have been no reports of damage to wheat crops. The heaviest infestation found was in the Bow Island area, where the worms were counted at an average of three per square foot of land, with the highest going to about eight per square foot. The army cutworm is a dark, smooth-bodied insect, varying in length from less than half-an-inch to over an inch-and-a-half. Farmers are advised to check their fields carefully for signs of the pest. If they find the worms present in numbers of one or more per square foot, they can expect damage to their crops.

Mosaic Infestation

WHEAT streak mosaic has been reported among winter wheat crops in many districts of southern Alberta, states Dr. J. T. Slykhuis, plant pathologist at the Science Service Laboratories, Lethbridge. Two fields in the Raymond and Welling districts were found to have severe infestations. The disease can be recognized in young plants by light green or yellow streaks on the leaves, which serve to distinguish it from yellowing due to other causes. However, wheat streak mosaic is not a menace where winter wheat is not grown.

NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

Get It At a Glance

News from the world agricultural front of interest to western Canadian farmers

About \$865 million worth of agricultural surpluses have been bartered, given away, sold, or authorized to be sold by the United States under special deals with other countries in the past 12 months. In addition to this, programs have been arranged to sell another \$150 million worth. These moves are making themselves felt on Canadian export markets. ✓

Fall-sown wheat, which normally amounts to about 90 per cent of the total European crop, came through last winter in good condition in most areas, and crop prospects are good. Increased acreage is reported in several of the big producing countries. ✓

A reduction in the world cotton production is forecast for next year. Although there are prospects of an increase in production in several countries, this will be more than offset by a big reduction in production in the United States. The production for the free world for the present year is estimated at 28.7 million bales, with a carryover on August 1 of more than 19 million bales. ✓

A reserve of 500,000 tons of wheat is the aim of a new wheat policy announced by the Pakistan government. It has also decided to reduce the price of wheat, which now runs from \$3.50 to \$5.05 (U.S. eq.) per bushel. Pakistan will begin the new wheat year with a reserve of 225,000 tons, and plans to step up its buying in the new season to reach the new reserve level set. ✓

World sugar production for 1954-55 totalled 40.3 million tons of centrifugal cane and beet sugar, a new record high. The production of non-centrifugal sugar (unrefined) is estimated at 6.2 million tons, also up from that of last year. ✓

Forty-two Australian farmers are making a round-the-world tour by air to visit farms in various countries. The group left home April 15, and plan to return September 1, after visiting farms in the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, and other parts of Europe. ✓

The world horse population continues to drop. According to latest reports from the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, there are now about 74 million horses in the world; a one per cent drop from last year's total, and 22 per cent below the figures given prior to World War II. Russia has the largest number of horses, with a total 16 million, next is Brazil with seven million. The decline in world horse numbers reflects the mechanization of agriculture; farmers in the United States use 60 to 65 per cent of all agricultural tractors used in the world. ✓

The cattle population of the world is going up. According to latest figures, there are about 877 million head of cattle in the world; one per cent more than last year, and 18 per cent above reported prewar levels. ✓

During the first three months of 1955, Canadian farmers received about \$34,200,000 less from the sale of their products than they did for the corresponding period last year. Over 82 per cent of the loss occurred in the province of Saskatchewan, and it represents the third consecutive annual drop since farm products sales reached their peak of \$555,700,000 in 1952. ✓

Farmers of Manitoba and Saskatchewan who are unable to seed this year because of flooded land will be able to qualify for financial aid under the Prairie Farm Assistance Act. Under the Act, payments of \$2.50 an acre are made on the basis of half a farmer's cultivated acreage, up to a maximum of 400 acres. ✓

There have been no cases of rabies in humans in Alberta since the outbreak in that province's wild life in 1952. The thorough educational program conducted since then by the Rabies Committee has emphasized the fact that, as long as people report their exposure to the disease promptly so they can be given the Pasteur treatment, no cases should occur. ✓

Meat is Canada's second largest industry, and the annual consumption in this country amounts to 127.5 pounds for every man, woman, and child. In the last 20 years Canadian farmers have received from one-quarter to one-third of their total cash income from meat-producing livestock. ✓

Rice will be growing this summer in Italy where fish swam last year because of a land reclamation project now nearing completion on delta lands of the river Po. The famed lagoons of Comacchio are being drained and de-salted; experts claim they will be very fertile, although it will take 20 years of cultivation before the reclaimed areas reach their production prime. ✓

About 300 head of Danish Jersey breeding cattle have been sold to Russia under terms of an agreement signed last January. The shipment will include 200 heifers and 100 young bulls. Soviet experts sent to conclude the deal insisted that animals with white spots will not be acceptable, and have expressed a preference for heifers a little heavier than the average Danish heifer. ✓

Food subsidies in Great Britain for the year ending March 31, 1954, reached the equivalent (U.S.) of \$935 million. Of this amount, subsidies paid to livestock producers and government losses on meat totalled \$161 million. The subsidies are designed to reduce the cost of living, and still hold producers' prices at a desirable level. ✓

A voluntary reduction in wheat production has been urged by the Wheat Growers' Union of Australia. Last year Australia ended with a surplus of 93 million bushels, and the present harvest has yielded about 160 million bushels more. ✓



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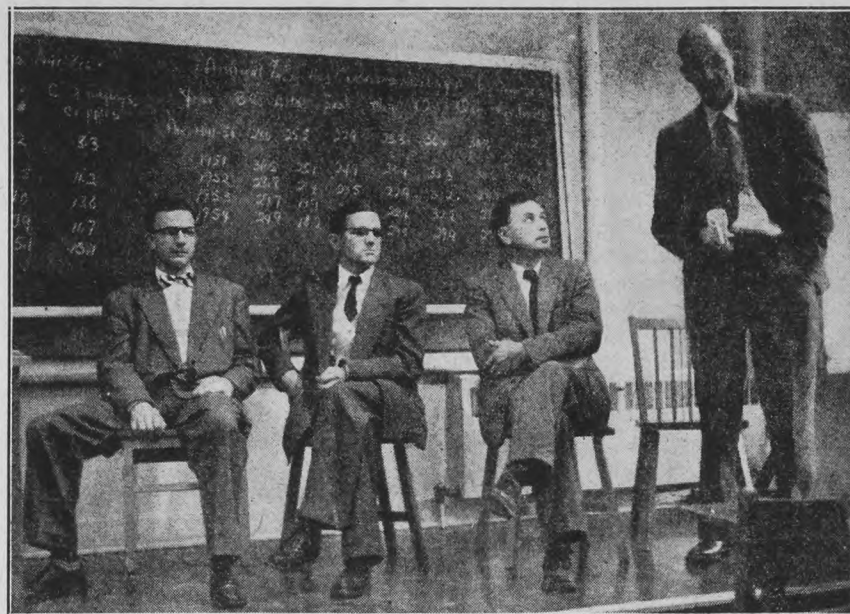
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LIVESTOCK



[Guide photo]
Professors R. A. DePape, M. E. Seale and J. Isa of the University of Manitoba and N. N. Allen of the University of Wisconsin (l. to r.), participate in a panel at the Feeders' Day at the University of Manitoba.

Feeders' Day at University of Manitoba

At a feeders' day at the University of Manitoba stockmen were brought up to date on silage feeding, stilbestrol for beef cattle and the cross breeding of hogs

ONE of the principal problems in the feeding of silage is simply that not enough of it is shovelled in front of the cows," Dr. N. N. Allen, professor of dairy husbandry, University of Wisconsin, told farmers attending the fifth annual feeders' day of the Division of Animal Science, University of Manitoba. "Another problem is that it is not possible to take out better feed in the winter than was put into the silo in the summer," he said. "Many feeders seem to feel they can transform trash into nutritious feed by putting it through a silo."

Although arguments can be advanced against ensiling, Professor Allen suggested that several strong arguments can be advanced in its favor. Showers and damp weather, which will stop haying, will not slow up ensiling. With legume crops, such as sweet clover and alfalfa, ensiling saves the leaves.

Many people do not recognize how large is the loss of leaves. Examinations of alfalfa hay in Wisconsin revealed that "good" alfalfa hay had 25 to 30 per cent leaves, by weight. If all the leaves had been retained the hay would have contained 50 per cent leaves, by weight. When it is considered that leaves are 20 to 25 per cent protein and stems only 10 per cent protein, it will be seen that the loss is greater even in feeding value than it is in bulk. "No farmer would tolerate a comparable loss from grain passing through his combine, but with alfalfa he doesn't recognize the loss," said Dr. Allen.

In winter feeding either hay or silage can be used exclusively but better results are gained by feeding some of each. In considering proportions, feeders must remember that silage is 70 per cent moisture and 30 per cent dry matter, while hay is 10 per cent moisture and 90 per cent dry matter, so it takes three pounds of silage to equal the dry matter in a pound of hay.

Many feeders have found cattle hesitate to eat grass silage. Dr. Allen suggested that the cows' chop, if grain is being fed, can be put on top of the silage. He felt that cattle would finally eat the silage, though they might eat it very slowly.

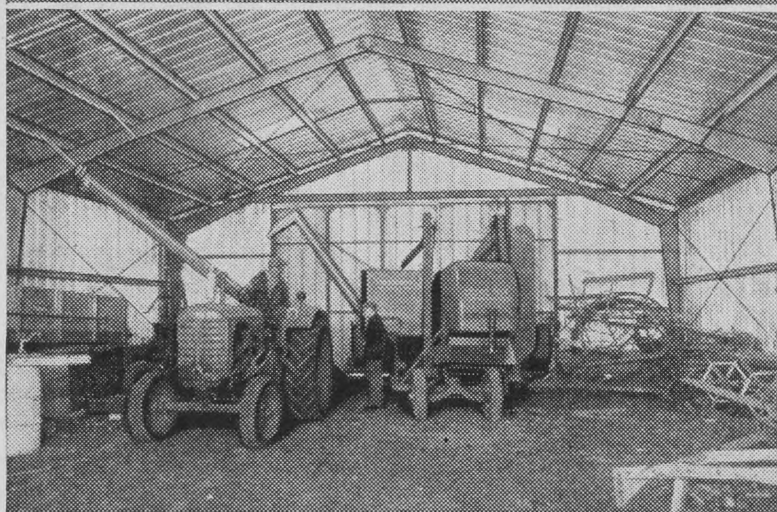
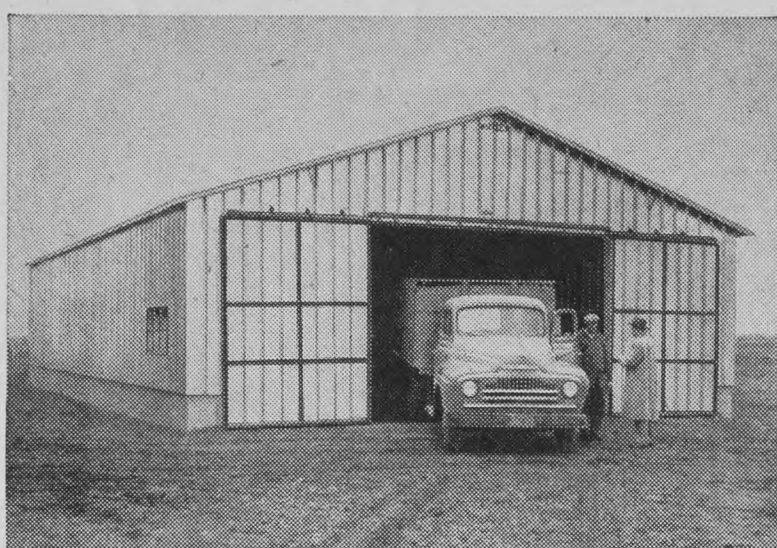
In the ensiling of crops, he felt that too little moisture was a greater hazard than too much, if the silo was well drained. Dry material may spoil in the silo so the stock won't eat it; the wet material will be very smelly, but it will still make satisfactory feed and the stock will eat it. Preservatives can be used—"I prefer to call them silage improvers rather than preservatives," commented the professor—but they are not normally necessary.

"Since mechanical handling of the heavy green feed has become possible, silage has become more popular. That is as it should be. It is an excellent way of handling feed," concluded Dr. Allen.

Livestock feeders are interested in stilbestrol as a possible means of increasing the rate of gain of animals on feed. Investigational work in the United States has established that feeding of this hormone increases the rate of gain. Its controlled use for the feeding of beef cattle is now permitted there, and it is estimated that 80 per cent of the cattle being fattened in the United States receive a stilbestrol supplement.

The use of stilbestrol is not permitted in Canada. It is felt that there is a lack of information as to possible effects which residues in animal flesh might have on humans. There has also been a lack of information as to its effect on rates of gain under Canadian conditions.

Some new information is now available on the second of these two points. R. A. DePape, of the Division of Animal Science, told those attending the fifth annual feeders' day at the University of Manitoba, that 10



Besides the equipment shown, Mr. Morris has room for his 24-run grain drill, wagon, 12-foot field cultivator, 10-foot tandem disk harrow, 4-bottom plow, mower, truck and trailer. "I'll have room, too, for the baler and side delivery rake I plan to buy," he says.

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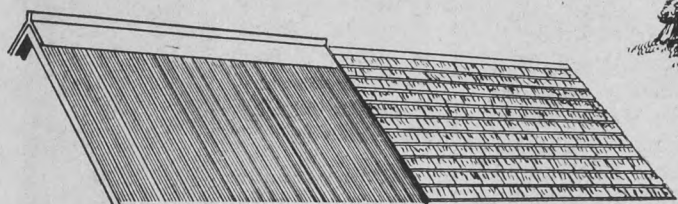
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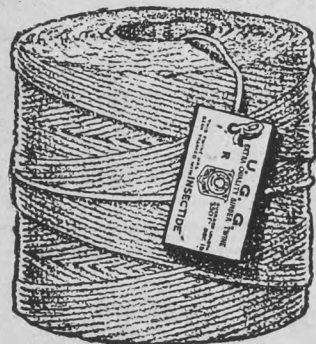
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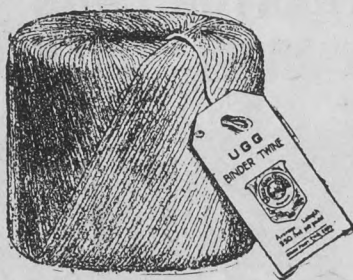
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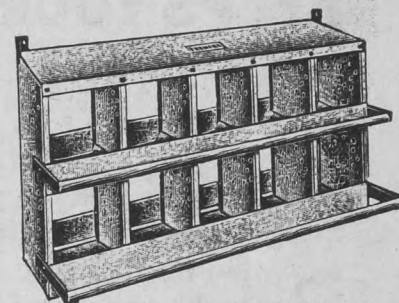
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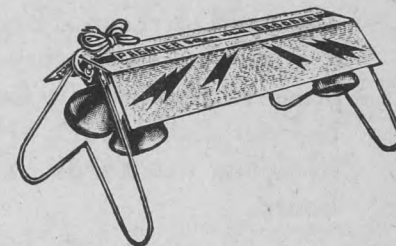
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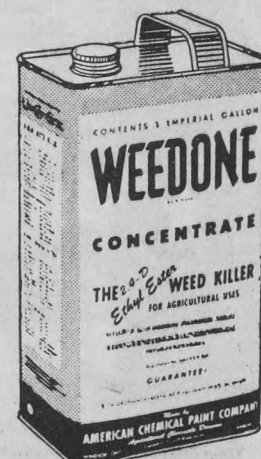
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"Some very large increases in the daily gain of livestock on feed are attributable to supplementation of feed with stilbestrol in the United States," said Professor DePape. "These gain increases are thought to be a result of the stimulation of appetite, as well as an increase in the efficiency of feed utilization."

The crossing of different breeds of hogs is practiced extensively in the United States and several other hog-producing countries of the world; it is regarded with deep suspicion by Canadian pig breeders.

M. E. Seale, assistant professor of animal science, University of Manitoba, said that this suspicion is not justified. His opinion was based on the results of breeding experiments conducted by the animal science department.

During the last four years at the university purebred Tamworth and crossbred Yorkshire-Tamworth females have been mated with Yorkshire boars to produce crossbred or backcross litters, either 50 per cent each of Yorkshire and Tamworth, or 75 per cent Yorkshire and 25 per cent Tamworth. The progeny have been compared with purebred Yorkshire litters.

Litters of the three different breedings were compared on the basis of the number born alive, the number weaned, the average weaning weight, the average age at marketing, the carcass grade and the carcass score determined by the Advanced Registry scoring method.

It was found that purebred and backcross litters tended to be slightly larger than the crossbred litters, a finding attributed to the notoriously low prolificacy of Tamworth sows. Crossbred and backcross litters attained slaughter weight ten days to two weeks earlier than the purebred litters. The purebred and crossbred litters both produced 50 per cent A grade carcasses; backcross pigs made a better showing than purebred in terms of the percentage of weaned pigs that survived to market age.

The four-year breeding program strongly suggests that crossing and backcrossing when compared to pure breeding have not had an adverse effect in terms of reproduction, growth, carcass quality or survival. In most of the characteristics considered the crossed pigs have been equal if not superior to purebreds in performance.

"If good, bacon breed stock is used, regardless of the breed, better results will be gained as a result of crossing breeds instead of pure breeding," said Professor Seale. "I would estimate that profits from a pig enterprise can be increased by a tenth through cross breeding," he said. V

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FIELD



A. B. Masson, cerealist, Laboratory of Cereal Breeding, poses beside a truckload of rust-resistant durum wheat, just arrived from increase fields in Arizona.

Rust-Resistant Durums Increased

Two strains of rust-resistant durum wheat are being increased on the prairies this summer

SLASHING attacks by 15B rust have forced many Manitoba farmers to abandon the growing of durum wheats. Manitoba and North Dakota, once top raisers of the durums, have largely conceded the fight and abandoned the field to 15B.

Not so the Rust Research Laboratory at Winnipeg. They recognized the imminence of this war before most farmers heard the opening gun, and by the time the battle was joined on the farms, the scientists had already won and lost some important skirmishes.

The scientists recently won a vital battle, and now are forcing the fight on all fronts. After five years of intensive breeding and selection, they are increasing two new durum strains—D.T. 136 and D.T. 137—both resistant to race 15B.

A. B. Masson, cerealist, Laboratory of Cereal Breeding, has been field commander in this engagement. He has worked on the breeding of durum wheats for many years; over the last five years emphasis has shifted to 15B resistance.

The work is not finished. The two strains developed have not been licensed for general growing, but if they should fail, other strains are being developed.

"We do not consider the resistance in these strains satisfactory, but they are so superior in resistance to presently grown strains that there is no comparison: in the new you find resistance, and in the old complete susceptibility," said Mr. Masson.

There is some difference between the two new strains. "D.T. 137 is slightly superior to D.T. 136 agronomically, but it does not produce as good quality wheat," he said.

Both strains are being increased in the hope that at least one of them will prove satisfactory. Last November, 60 bushels of the two strains were seeded

at Yuma, Arizona. In May of this year Masson went to Arizona to oversee the harvest, and on May 13, great truck trailers rolled toward Canada, carrying a precious cargo of 2,511 bushels of the new strains. On arrival the seed was distributed to experimental farms and selected growers for further increase.

The heavy yield in Arizona was urged out of eight feet of sand. Irrigation water was added frequently. The first fertilization—150 pounds an acre of 16-20-0—was followed at monthly intervals with 20 to 25 pounds per acre of ammonium nitrate in the irrigation water.

The seed produced is now being increased again under contract with the Canada Department of Agriculture. If the strains are licensed, an equitable method of distribution again will be planned.

"I would like to stress that these strains are not licensed," said Dr. R. F. Peterson, officer-in-charge, Laboratory of Cereal Breeding. "If and when they are licensed, farmers in western Canada will be notified through the normal publicity channels."

New 15B resistant strains have been developed in North Dakota and they, too, are being increased.

Until one of these new strains from Canada or the United States proves itself, and is licensed and increased, farmers in the rust area will either avoid durum wheats, or plant and run the risk of rust. V

Some Further Facts On Stem Rust

SCIENTISTS have wondered for many years what would happen to wheat stem rusts when wheat varieties came to be grown that were resistant to all the races in a given area. Many asked the question, but no

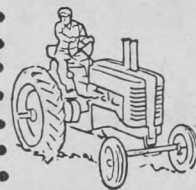
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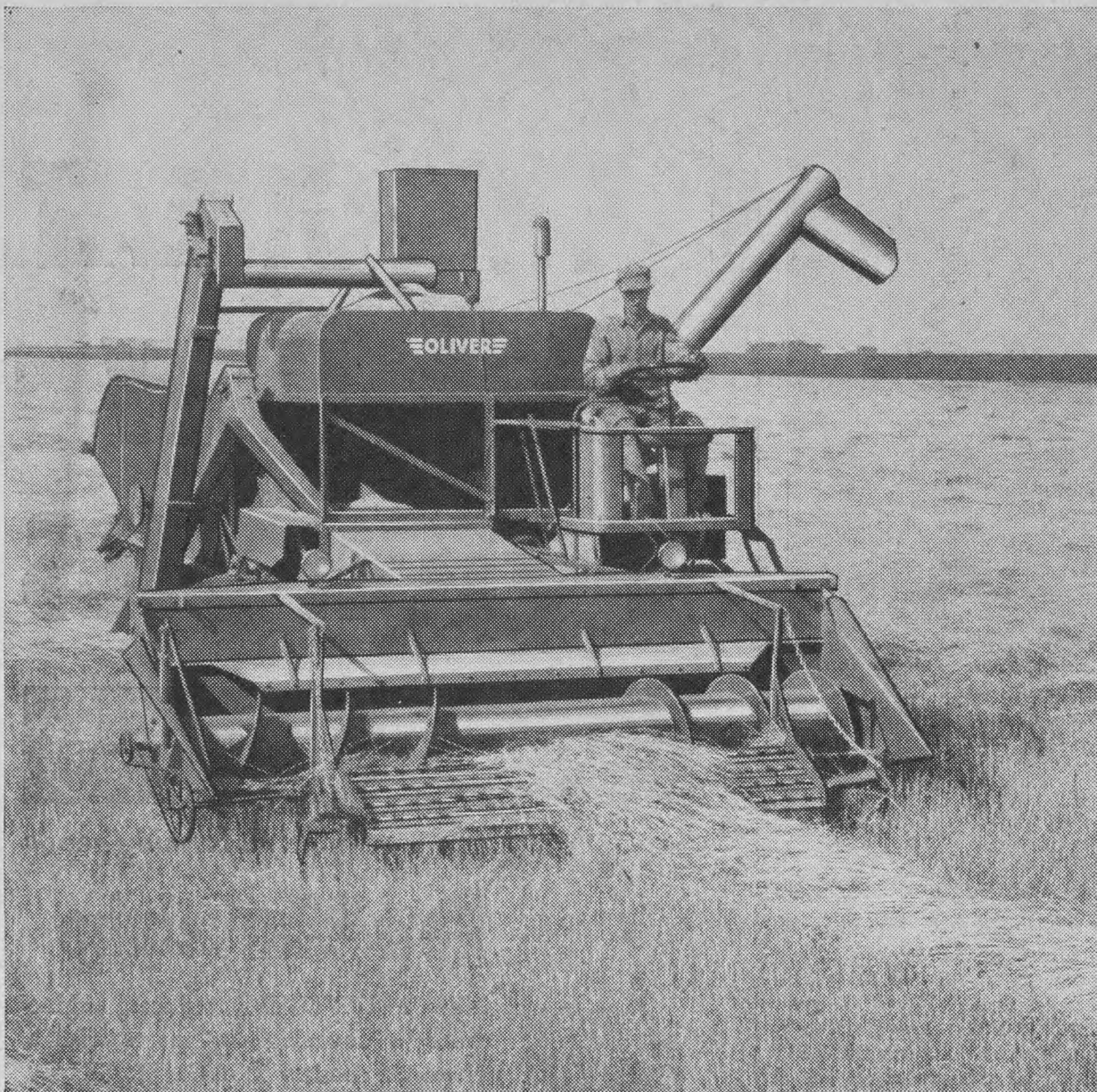
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FIELD

one could give the answer, because, before the experiment could be tried, suitable varieties had to be bred.

It was finally tried in Kenya Colony, Australia, and North America. The answer came first from Kenya and Australia; entirely resistant varieties were grown for only two to four years before they began to show some rust infection. The answer appeared to be, in almost all cases, that the new rust would not be a new race, but would be a substrain of an old race.

In North America there was a longer wait; our rust-resistant wheats were virtually free from rust during the period 1939-49. When they did begin to rust the new attacker turned out to be a substrain of rust race 15—which is the reason the new and devastating strain is known as race 15B.

The new strains of rust, fortunately still scarce, which attack Selkirk are also substrains of known races, one a substrain of race 12, one of race 15B and two of race 29, reports Dr. Thorvaldur Johnson, of the Winnipeg Plant Pathology Laboratory of the Canada Department of Agriculture.

How nature produces these strains is not known, although it is thought it might be by a process of mutation which involves very slight but permanent changes in an organism. V

Keeping the Trash On the Top

SUBSURFACE cultivators—a group of machines that includes the wide-blade cultivator, the heavy duty cultivator, the duckfoot field cultivator and the rod weeder—are the best available tillage tools for trash conservation on summerfallow fields.

The capacity of a cultivator to conserve trash is greater the fewer shanks or standards there are on the machine and the more widely they are spaced. Trash conservation is increased the less pitch there is on the shovels or blades.

Wide-blade cultivators equipped with one, two or three standards will bury less than 10 per cent of the trash on each operation in a firm, fairly moist soil. In a friable soil the wide, flat blades tend to raise buried trash to the surface, and rank second only to the rod weeder in this respect.

Heavy duty cultivators, equipped with 16-inch sweeps and 12-inch shank spacings, will ordinarily turn under 15 to 20 per cent of trash on each stroke, although an excessive pitch on the shovels will result in much more trash being covered.

Duckfoot cultivators with nine-inch shank spacings will usually bury 20 to 30 per cent of the trash on each operation; the amount buried again depends in part on the adjustment of the shovels and the condition of the soil.

The rod weeder, when used after a disk implement, will bring a considerable amount of buried material to the surface; an operation with a rod weeder after a disk implement has increased trash on a field surface by almost 20 per cent. A second operation with the rod weeder brings up very little additional trash.

Where soil drifting is a hazard the use of subsurface cultivating equipment can be very effective. V

HORTICULTURE



Iris plants make a good showing, and blooms have a wide color range.

Does Your Iris Need Transplanting?

IRISES should be transplanted in July or August, when this is necessary. Generally speaking, better results are secured if transplanting is done every three or four years.

It may be that they do not get as much sun as they would like, or that in their present location, drainage is not as good as you could provide. Bearded iris will grow fairly well in almost any soil if it is kept fertile but prefer a well-drained soil and an abundance of sunlight.

The Alberta Horticultural Advisory Committee says that the best transplanting method is to dig the plants and then pull them apart so that each division will have two or three fans of leaves. Planting should be quite shallow, but make sure that the soil is packed firmly about the rhizome or tuber.

Iris make a great showing and are a very attractive plant and flower combination. There are many different varieties of bearded iris which grow from 18 to 24 inches in height and range in color through various shades of blue to purple, and from pink to red, as well as from yellow to tan and brown.

Incidentally, one of the most useful and handy publications for amateur horticulturists is called "The Alberta Horticultural Guide." Readers in Alberta should ask their district agriculturist for a copy, or write to the provincial horticulturist, Alberta Department of Agriculture at Edmonton, or to the Provincial Horticultural Station, Brooks, Alberta. Readers in the Peace River district could write to the Dominion Experimental Station at Beaverlodge. V

Controlling Garden Slugs

THE Department of Entomology at the University of Manitoba has warned gardeners that slugs will attack carrots, celery, lettuce, peas, potatoes, tomatoes and many other vegetables and flowers, from July on through September, in Manitoba.

These slugs are grey or greyish-brown, soft-bodied, slimy, legless creatures. They move slowly over the surface of the ground, or the leaf of the plant, and especially at night, chew the leaves particularly where the soil remains moist in the shade of plants.

When such damage is noticed, some kind of bait containing metaldehyde is recommended. This bait is attractive to slugs and prepared slug-killers are obtainable under various trade names. Each one should be used according to the specific directions on its container.

A dust, which must not be used on the plants, but is distributed on the surface of the soil, will also kill slugs. It is made from one part, by volume, of dehydrated copper sulphate, mixed thoroughly with ten parts of hydrated lime.

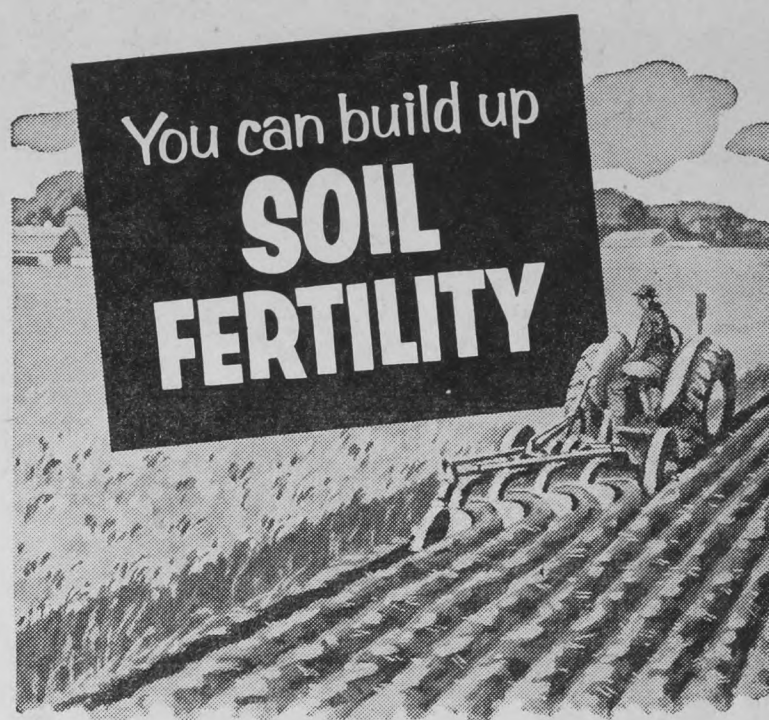
It is important to deal with garden slugs as soon as they are noticed. Watch carefully any shady spots where the soil remains moist. V

Keep Peas And Beans Picked

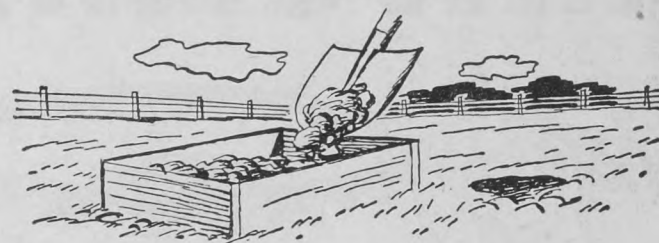
ONE of the reasons why we go to all the trouble of preparing, planting and caring for a garden is to have fresh, rich, tasteful and nutritious vegetables for as long a time during the summer as possible. Most gardeners make two or three plantings of such crops as peas and corn, but much can be done with crops like peas and beans to extend the season by keeping the pods picked off regularly, so that new pods will be formed.

The importance of this will be realized more fully if we remember that when a plant has produced its seed or fruit, its work is done. In other words, its sole effort is to produce mature pods. The vegetable gardener takes advantage of this by picking the pods and eating the seeds, before they are mature, so the plant will keep on trying to mature seed for as long as possible.

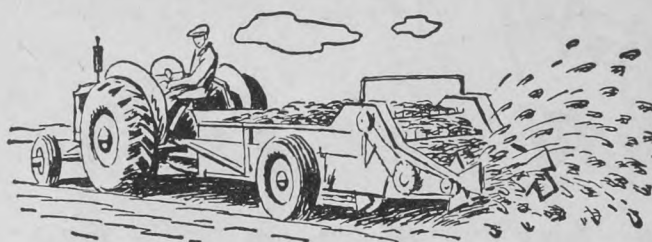
This means that when picking the podded vegetables, any pods that have been missed before and have become old, should be picked and discarded. Leaving them on the vine only decreases the yield of the fresh vegetables. V



Ploughing under grasses and legumes is your cheapest way to build up organic matter and prevent soil erosion.



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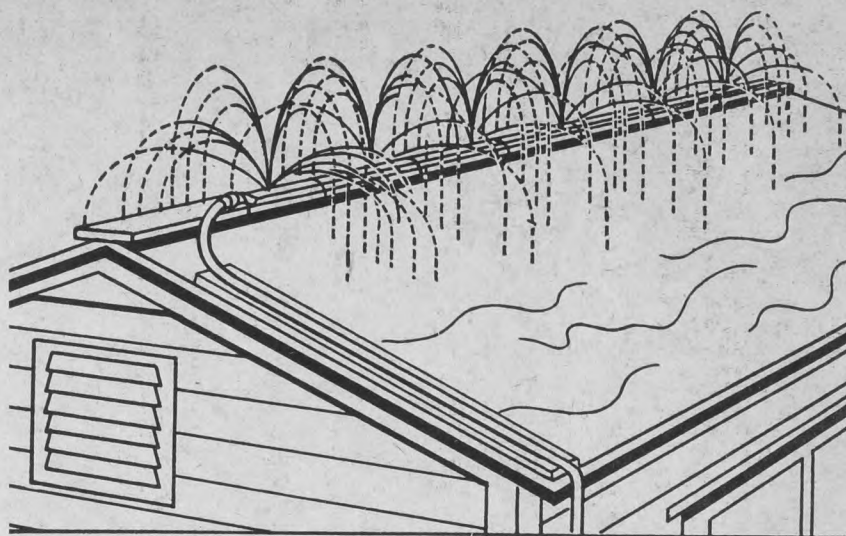


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POULTRY



Drawing of poultry house with spray soakers installed along ridge of roof. Note attached boards to keep apparatus clear of roofing material.

Hot Weather Care for Layers

Poultrymen who keep their birds comfortable in hot weather are rewarded by higher output and better prices

ALTHOUGH it's true that egg production of yearling hens tends to fall off during the summer months, it can be kept from falling too sharply by giving the birds a little extra attention to make them as comfortable as possible in the hot weather.

The temperature of your poultry house can be lowered as much as 15 degrees during hot summer months by attaching a spray soaker or sprinkler along the ridge of the building's roof so that a stream of water will run down both sides. Cooling is effected through the water's evaporation.

Certain precautions should be taken when rigging a cooler of this type. The soaker, sprinkler, or plastic hose shouldn't be placed directly on asphalt or tar roofing. It's better to nail an unpainted slat to the roof, and fasten these items to it; this also keeps the soaker or sprinkler flat so that sprays are properly directed. Water pressure should be kept low if a sprinkler is used.

Poultry houses should also be well ventilated and insulated, or temperatures will build up inside and the flocks suffer harm. There should be windows in the rear of the building, as well as in the front, so as to allow cross ventilation; some form of ceiling insulation is a great help in keeping temperatures down, even if it's made only of poultry netting and straw.

Although hot weather places a strain on laying hens, lice and mites appear to thrive on it. Poultrymen should make periodic searches for these parasites on the birds, or in cracks and seams of the laying house, and take effective measures to keep them under control. Several good preparations that are easy to apply can be obtained from any poultry supply house.

Close attention should also be paid to the freshness of feed during the summer months. Stale mash isn't as palatable as newly mixed feed, and it has generally lost some of the essential food elements. When it's necessary to store feed, it should be kept in as cool and dry a place as possible.

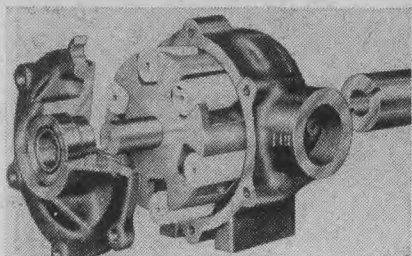
A steady supply of cool drinking water is one of the most important needs of poultry in hot weather. Ordinary containers are now giving way to automatic drinking systems, but the latter must be installed in an efficient manner if the owner is to reap full benefit from them. Exposed pipes must be insulated, and lead-in lines deeply buried, to keep the water cool in summer and to lessen the frost danger in winter.

Another condition to be guarded against in hot weather is the weakening of egg shells, which often leads to deliberate egg eating by some portions of the flock. The causes of thin shells aren't fully understood yet, but poultrymen should at least make sure that adequate amounts of oyster shell are available to the birds at all times. Most mash formulas now include supplementary forms of shell-making material such as ground limestone, or steamed bonemeal, but it's important to see that enough mash is consumed in order that these ingredients may be effective.

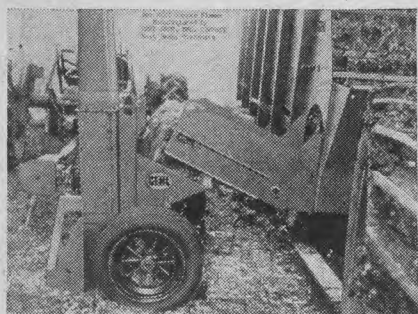
Poultry Prices Expected to Rise

AN upward trend in the price of eggs in the United States is expected to begin sometime this August, according to Lloyd Forness of the North Dakota Extension Service. This is indicated by an increase in the quantity of stored shell eggs, which have been stored in anticipation of such a price rise. Another indication is the fact that, while last year's heavy egg production has been pretty well consumed, the sale of chicks for flock replacement in the United States this year has been 25 per cent below that of 1954. Too, the remainder of hatches in May and June are expected to be lower than last year. Although second-year hens aren't as profitable as a pullet flock, Forness suggests that poultrymen keep the old hens until they stop laying, to enable the producer to take advantage of the expected rise in prices.

WHAT'S NEW

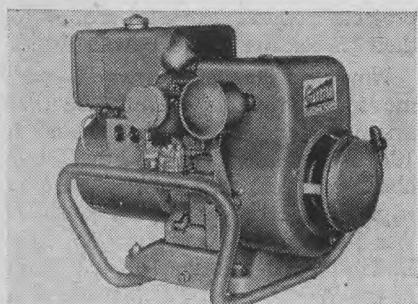
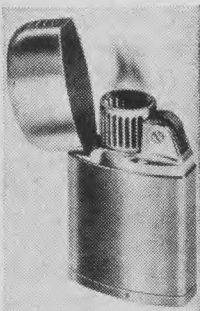


This high capacity, sprayer pump produces a flow of over 65 gallons a minute at its recommended speed of 1,100 r.p.m., yet, according to the manufacturer, the capacity is still over 30 gallons a minute at the tractor p.t.o. speed of 500 r.p.m. Suitable for weed, insect or cattle spraying, the wear resisting pump is said to mount directly on the tractor p.t.o. shaft. (Hypro Engineering, Inc.) (86) ✓



According to the manufacturer the elimination of the horizontal feed table on this feed blower eliminates spillage, simplifies unloading, saves work and cuts costs. Feed falls directly into the bottom of the blower chamber through a large diameter throat opening (Gehl Bros. Mfg. Co.) (87) ✓

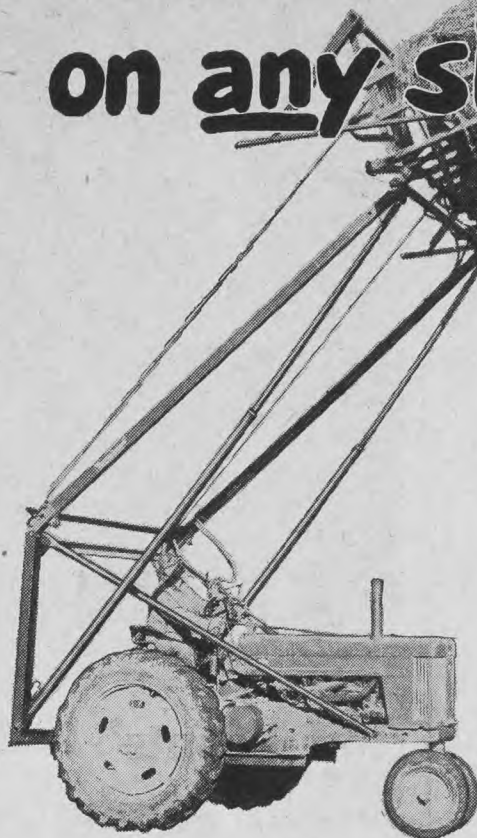
A slotted collar protects the flame on this new outdoor lighter, and it is said to light reliably, even in a high wind. It has a lifetime Fibreglas wick, a large fuel capacity, and a removable base for easy filling. (Ronson Art Metal Works (Canada) Ltd.) (88) ✓



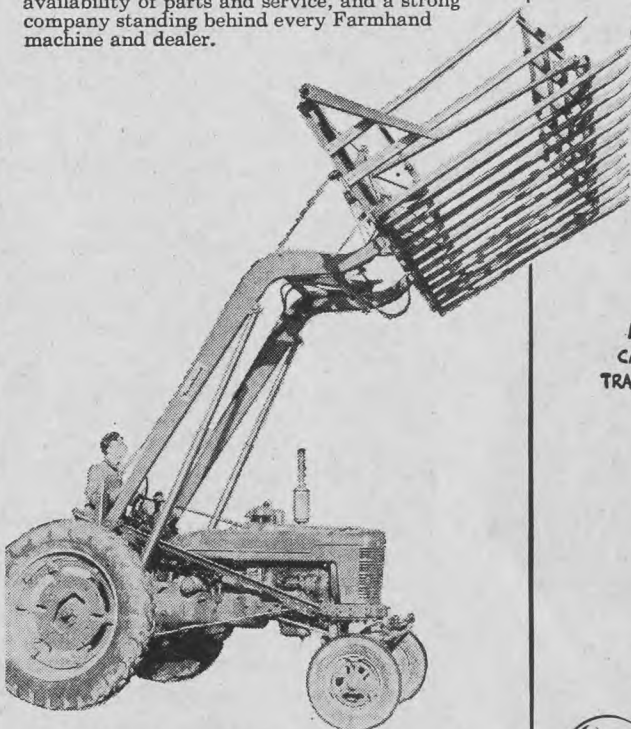
These small, engine-driven electric generating plants range in size from 500 to 2,500 watts. According to the manufacturer, great output is provided by the light, low-cost plant. They are available in 500, 750, 1,000 and 2,500-watt sizes, alternating current, or in battery charging units from 500 to 1,500 watts. (D. W. Onan and Sons.) (89) ✓

For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg 2, giving the key number shown at the end of each item, as—(17).

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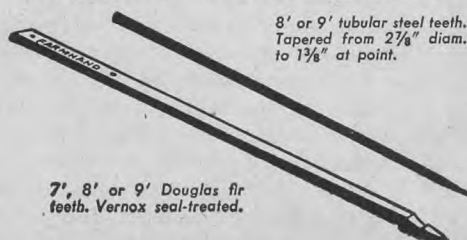


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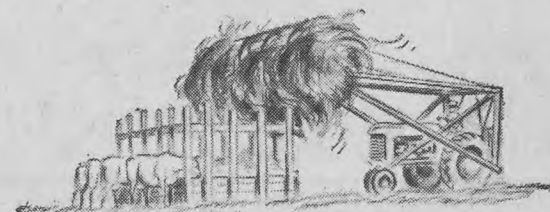
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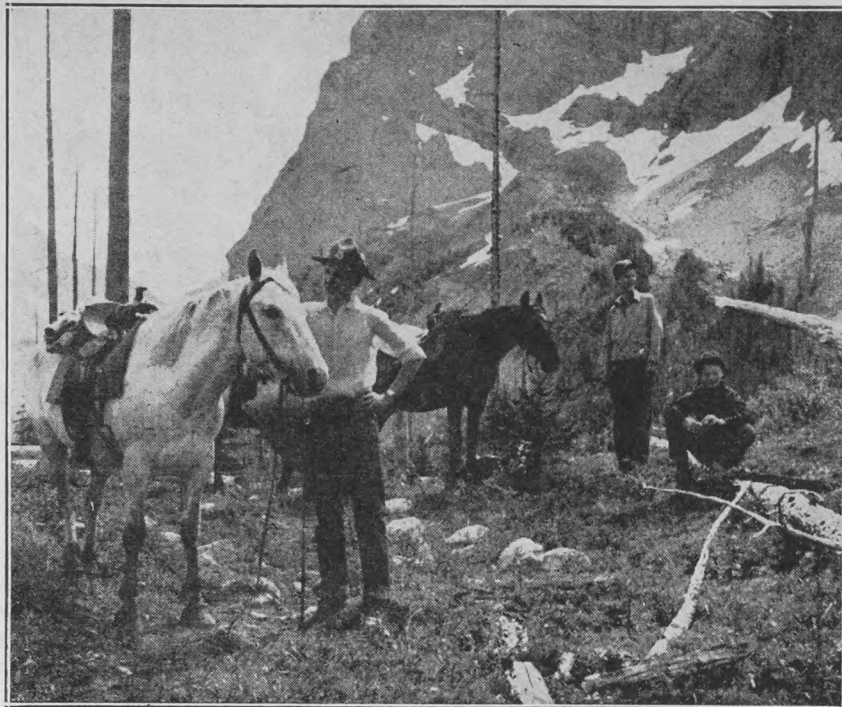
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FARM YOUNG PEOPLE



Scouts riding trail in the Rocky Mountains during a 14-day conservation award trip last August.

Boy Scouts' World Jamboree

Amid a mountain of food, scouts from many countries will gather in the comradeship of the open campfire

FROM August 18 to 28, about 10,000 Boy Scouts and their leaders, from over 40 countries, will gather at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, for the Boy Scouts' Eighth World Jamboree—the first time the event has ever been held outside Europe. The occasion will actually be a junior United Nations, where scouts from Iceland to Africa, from Greece to the Windward Islands, from India, Australia, and a host of other countries, will live in tents, cook their meals over glowing charcoal fires, and intermingle in the easy comradeship of the open campfire.

The British scout contingent will be made up of some 1,000 boys from England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Gold Coast. In what is said to be the biggest airlift in scout history, British scouts and their leaders, with their comrades from Africa, will travel to Canada in more than two dozen huge airliners.

The big Niagara campsite, long a summer training ground for Canadian reserve army units, will be divided into 10 sub-camps, each containing about 1,000 scouts and their leaders. These sub-camps will be divided again into "families" of 10 scouts apiece for cooking and feeding purposes. Each family will cook its own meals, and member scouts will take turns as firemen, cooks, and kitchen assistants.

Feeding the hungry hordes at the giant jamboree will require over 400 tons of supplies. The scout quartermaster service has ordered 35,000 pounds of meat and meat products, 210,950 pounds of dairy products, 8,000 pounds of fish, 97,000 pounds of fresh vegetables, 55,000 pounds of canned vegetables, 28,500 pounds of fresh fruits, 40,000 pounds of canned fruits, 15,000 pounds of fruit juices, 142,700 pounds of bread and pastry, 10,850 pounds of jams and jellies, 11,000 pounds of cereals, 5,000

pounds of pickles, 9,000 pounds of miscellaneous items, such as soups, and 10,000 pounds of staple items such as sugar, salt, and pepper. Keeping the perishable goods in this mountain of food fresh will take about 50 tons of ice, and cooking the estimated 250,000 meals will require 100,000 pounds of charcoal.

One of the greatest problems facing scouts from "soft currency" countries will be obtaining the \$50 in expense money they will need in this country. Of this, \$30 will be needed for camp fees, and \$20 for day to day expenses during the 10-day camping period. Their travel expenses will present no problem because these can be paid in the currency of their native land. To assist as many scouts as possible to attend, Canadian scouts have been working hard at a great variety of projects designed to raise money for their "Break the Dollar Barrier Fund."

Now a recognized world-wide movement, the Boy Scouts had their origin on a small English island in 1907, when Robert Baden-Powell took about 20 youngsters on a camping trip. When the first world jamboree was held in 1920, in London, Lord Baden-Powell was named Chief Scout of the World. At the fifth world jamboree, held 30 years after that first island camping trip, he spoke to 27,000 Boy Scouts from 35 countries for his last appearance before them. These international youth gatherings have been held at four-year intervals ever since 1920, except for a ten-year gap caused by World War II.

This year's assembly at Niagara has been entitled "The Jamboree of New Horizons" by Major-General D. C. Spry, formerly of Winnipeg, and now director of the International Boy Scout Bureau, London. Since it is the first world scout meet to be held outside Europe, he feels it will provide new horizons and vistas for many boys. V

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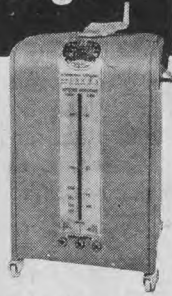
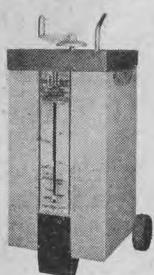
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When Disaster Strikes . . .

Continued from page 9

Jack Butt, who was three miles south, looked toward home and saw great pieces of plywood, fluttering like straws in a small prairie wind devil, half a mile above the home yard.

He could not know what buildings had been sacrificed to the playful mood of the storm. Later he knew that the storm, in less time than it takes to say "parity prices", had ripped apart a new 40- by 52-foot plywood, quonset-type machine shed built the year before; had wrecked a 12- by 14-foot cleaning bin and damaged the fanning mill inside it; had lifted and demolished a 34- by 52-foot metal machine shed without seriously damaging the combine it housed, and had ripped a round, metal grain bin off its cement foundation and tossed it on top of a truck parked in the yard.

That was the damage that Jack would have seen immediately on this farm that he and his father, Fred Butt, and his brother-in-law, Dave Coventry, own. Closer examination would reveal that both barn and large garage were twisted off their foundations, while a great power pole had been snapped off a couple of feet above the ground, torn loose from the wire and hurled down a quarter of a mile away. A truck had been spun around and a window sucked out of it by the whirling torrent of air.

The job done, the new-born tornado travelled east for three miles, lifting the soil to the plow-sole level as it passed over fallow fields, and then, in a flurry of rain, it died.

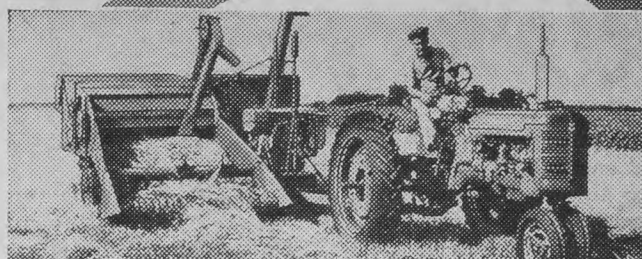
In its haste it had passed between the two houses that stood in the Butt yard and left them undamaged, and had left various other buildings standing. Although Mrs. Fred Butt was in one of the houses, and her husband was driving into the yard, the five children who make their home on the Butt farm were all away swimming; had they been at home, tragedy would almost certainly have been multiplied.

Droves of neighbors arrived to help clean up and make repairs. A building bee was organized to erect a large granary to replace those ruined. It took many hours of man-labor, no matter how briskly the neighbors and family worked, to build what was torn apart in a few moments by this unexpected and unwelcome caller.

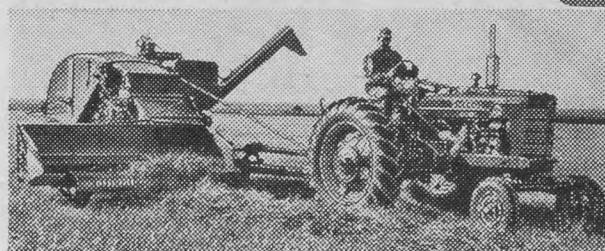
A MORE insidious but equally deadly element did the harm on the Russ Gregory farm at St. Norbert, Manitoba. In the very early hours of a mid-winter morning the darkness was gashed by flames leaping from the dairy barn and piggery on the Gregory farm. Although the cattle and some hogs were saved, 20 pigs, the barns, and a winter's supply of feed were altered in a few minutes to a worthless heap of smoking ashes.

This spring across the prairies another type of natural disaster is making its presence felt—the soggy existence of too much water—an element as devastating, in its way, as hail and fire and wind.

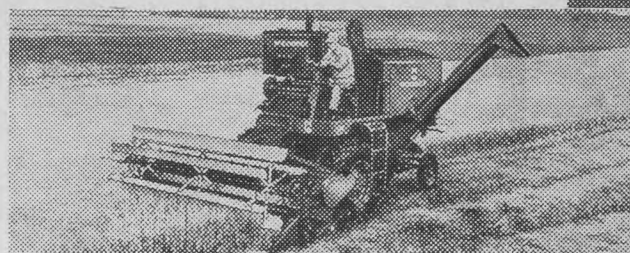
It all goes to show that any way you look at it, farming is still a very chancy business. v



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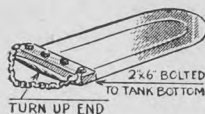
Summer Ideas For the Workshop

Ideas from readers help to speed midsummer jobs

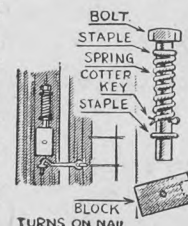
Oil Wood Screws. It is surprising how many people who always use oil on metal will not think to use it on wood. Applying a few drops of light oil to a wood screw will make it much easier to screw in and tighten, and there will be less danger of breaking the screw.—O.T., Man.



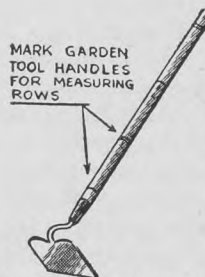
A Simple Skid. I made a simple skid for moving oil drums or bagged seed grain in the field. I took the bottom of a discarded water tank, squared one end, bolted a two-by-six to the squared end, and attached a chain, as shown. The skid wouldn't stand hitting a lot of rocks, but if used with care will last a long time and is easy to load.



Locking Barn Door. Stock will often push up a hook on the barn or granary door. A rotating latch, with a bolt, spring and cotter key arrangement, as shown, above it, will fool even the smartest. It can be made in a few minutes, and will really keep the door closed.

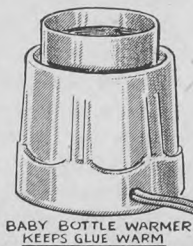


Marking Garden Rows. There are a number of ways of marking the rows when you are planting the garden. One of the handiest is to mark the row spacings on the handle of a hoe or rake so the measurement can be made anywhere along the row when you are planting the garden.

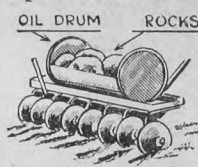


Clean Fountain Pen. If my fountain pen clogs and will not clear readily I wash it out several times with rubbing alcohol, drawing it up and ejecting it several times. After washing it several times with clear water the pen writes like new.—S.I.N.

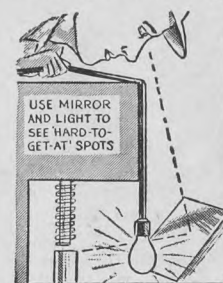
Keeping Glue Soft. If you are working with something on which you are using glue, and wish to keep the glue soft, there is nothing I have found that will beat an ordinary warmer, made for keeping baby bottles warm. They keep it warm without burning it. Of course it is electrical, so can only be used by those on the power.



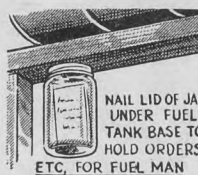
Keeping Disk Deep. It is often difficult to keep the disk in the ground especially if the soil is packed. An oil drum can be cut and fitted onto each section of the disk, as shown, and filled with rocks.



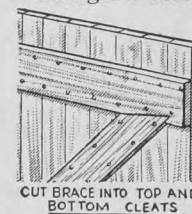
Mirror and Light. A mirror and light can be combined to simplify working in dark, awkward corners. I find them particularly useful for working on the valves of an L-head motor, as shown in illustration. They are useful in any corner.—O.T., Man.



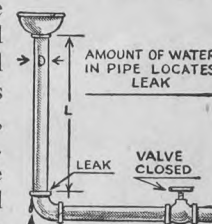
Jar For Orders. I am often not at home when the truck calls with fuel. To save confusion and the loss of orders and statements I attached a jar to the tank base, as shown. This is handy for myself and for the man delivering the fuel.



Stronger Doors. As a door gets older the nails tend to work loose and the door will sag. The nails have less to carry and the door holds better if the braces are cut into the top and bottom cross members, as shown in the illustration. I find that my doors last longer if built this way.



Leak in Buried Pipe. If there is a leak in a buried pipe or one that is in a wall, the leak can be located with a quantity of water. Put in a valve anywhere beyond the leak and close it. Fill the pipe with water and leave it until all the water has drained away, down to the leak. Now fill the pipe quickly, and measure with a measured amount of water, so you know exactly how many pints it takes to fill the pipe. One pint of water will fill 42 feet of standard 1/8-inch pipe, 23.2 feet of 1/4-inch, 12.6 feet of 3/8-inch, 7.9 feet of 1/2-inch, 4.5 feet of 3/4-inch, 2.78 feet of 1-inch, 1.6 feet of 1 1/4-inch, 1.17 feet of 1 1/2-inch, 0.715 foot of 2-inch, 0.5 foot of 2 1/2-inch, 0.325 foot of 3-inch, 0.243 foot 3 1/2-inch and 0.189 foot of 4-inch pipe. Using these figures the distance to the leak can be calculated.—W.F.S.





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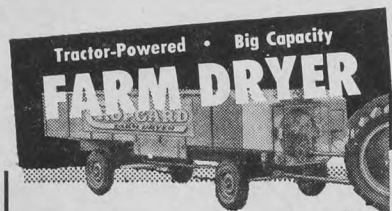
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Safe Water

MANY of our rivers and lakes are contaminated by waste water from industrial or household sources as the surrounding areas become more densely populated. As it's often necessary to use them for a drinking water supply, they must first be made safe so as to prevent the spread of dangerous diseases such as typhoid fever.

If the water is cloudy, suspended material may be removed by settling and filtration. Settling is carried out in large tanks or reservoirs, where the coarser material such as mud, sand, and organic matter is allowed to settle out. Fine suspended material (colloidal) can be precipitated by adding aluminum salts, and the water then passed through beds of sand which act as filters to remove the finer material. In areas where available water contains suspended material, these treatments are vitally necessary to guarantee a safe water supply.

Whether the water is naturally clear or cleared by artificial means, the final treatment is chlorination. In summer camps, or farms and homes using well water, or water from sources which are open to contamination, it's best to chlorinate the supply. This can be done by adding a few drops of any commercial hypochlorite solution to each gallon of water. This ensures safe water, and at the same time doesn't affect its flavor.

The unpleasant flavor said to result from chlorination is really caused by the use of too little of the chemical, rather than too much. Since part of the chlorine which is added reacts with the organic material present, an excess of the chemical is needed so that some will be left over after the reaction takes place. Otherwise, the chlorophenols formed by the reaction will remain and cause unpleasant flavors.

Chlorine is a heavy greenish yellow gas which forms hypochlorous acid when dissolved in water. This substance is very active chemically, so that when it reacts with organic material present in the water, it has a germicidal effect on any bacteria present. Liquid chlorine is generally metered into a water supply after chemical tests have shown the amount needed. The concentration is estimated in parts of chlorine per million parts of water—the amount of excess allowed is usually about one-half part per million.

Attempts on the part of public health authorities to chlorinate water supplies generally meet with opposition from various segments of the public on the grounds that chlorine is poisonous. This is probably based on the fact that elemental chlorine is an irritant gas which will have serious effects on the lungs if inhaled. In treated drinking water, however, chlorine doesn't appear in the gaseous state. When it combines with organic matter in the water it's no longer in the gaseous form, nor is it an irritant, because the quantities normally used are so minute. In its combined state chlorine in water is no more toxic than table salt, which is also a chlorine compound, and which the average individual uses in considerable amounts.



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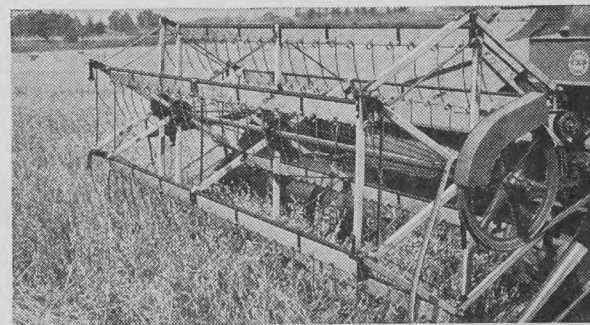


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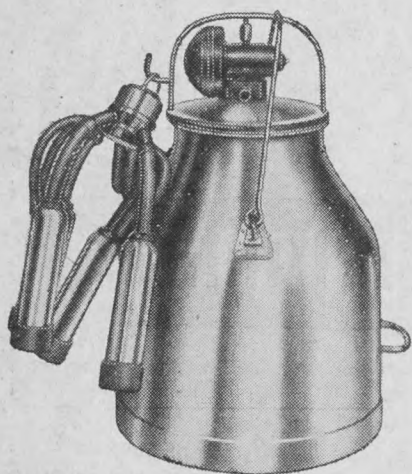
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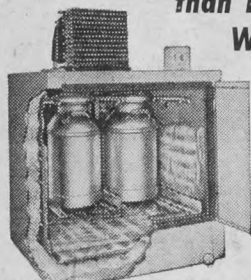
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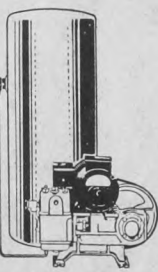
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Seed Growing Is Their Business

Continued from page 8

Though pioneers with this young crop, Les and Rowe Harris were late in getting to the Peace. Before they left their native England in 1925, however, the story of the 16 million acres in the Peace River district, an area larger than the province of Nova Scotia, and much of it fit for farming—had brought settlers from around the world. Following the first march of settlers on foot to claim homesteads in 1906, settlement of the new country progressed in waves. The final inrush began in 1926, and in that year, Les and Rowe Harris, newcomers to the West, were toiling in the Edmonton district. The new land to the north caught their imagination and they became restless again. In the fall of 1927, Les headed north. He travelled past the already settled Grande Prairie country and chose his homestead near Beaverlodge. Rowe joined him the next year, and they settled into the hard and lonely life of homesteading. At that time, their scanty stake included three horses, a walking plow, a six-foot disk and very little capital.

SETTLERS needed quick returns then, with which to buy equipment, and wheat, oats and barley became the major crops. It was already apparent to a few, however, that the fertile prairies of Saskatchewan and the prairies of the Peace could not be farmed alike. The lighter soil of the north could not withstand continuous cropping. The Beaverlodge Experimental Station was searching for an alternative then, and offered forage seed to anyone who would take it. E. C. Stacey, now superintendent of the Station, was then on the staff. He had a working agreement with the Harris boys, too, and they used some of the seeds. Among them was one called creeping red fescue, which yielded 1,000 pounds. When it was snapped up by an airport in the east at 35 cents a pound, a new industry was born for the Peace.

Its dense-growing root system, fine leaf and hardness made it ideal for golf courses and lawns. It was soon popular on the rich American market. As with any specialty crop, competition became active and Denmark's skilful farmers went into production. The severest competition came from American growers. Creeping red fescue is a favorite in the irrigated areas of Oregon. With a rich soil and plenty of mountain runoff, farmers there grow it in rows, and harvest up to 7,000 pounds of seed per acre. Canadian production, on dry land, may be 100 or 200 pounds, or at the most, 800 pounds.

"Even then, Canadians are in a good competitive position," Rowe Harris says. "We aren't growing it in wide rows on high-priced irrigated land. We have less work and expense."

The crop is temperamental, and a big factor in its mushrooming popularity (Peace River acreage expanded from 3,600 in 1947 to 30,000 in 1953) has been the increased understanding of its growth characteristics. The

Harris unlocked one of its first secrets early. Encouraged by their success of the first few years, they increased their acreage and found that growing the seeds in widely spaced rows meant much drudgery. Then, faced with a field too wet for their heavy equipment, they decided to broadcast some seed on the soggy soil. It thrived and yielded well, and since then the easier method has been accepted.

They first seeded five pounds to the acre and failed to get a good catch, because much of it was too deep down to grow. "I've seen seeds sown two-and-a-half inches deep that never reached the surface," Rowe recalls. He mentions getting a good catch later seeding 30 pounds on 40 acres.

A nurse crop is often used. This may set back the first crop of seed for a year, but it helps get rid of weeds like shepherd's purse, pigweed, lamb's quarters and stinkweed. Even then hand roguing is one of the major tasks. With their meticulous control program, three men on the Harris farm spend three weeks each summer, searching out occasional weeds and pulling them by hand.

Fertilizers are now part and parcel of their seed operations also. They provide greater control over the critical points of growth, and it is now known that creeping red fescue, like other grasses, is a heavy nitrogen feeder. Seed stock formation and seed yields require it, so nitroprills (33-0-0) are applied late in fall at 100 pounds to the acre. These will be available for early growth on fields expected to yield a crop the following year.

CREeping red fescue yields its heaviest crop about three years after seeding. The yield then declines for two or three years by which time the dense root system has created a sodbound condition, and the land must be broken again. That job requires heavy equipment.

One recommended way to clean up a field is to plow in the fall and till it the following spring with a one-way, to kill the plants and start the vegetation rotting. At Beaverlodge, the sta-

Publishing a volume of verse is like dropping a rose petal down the Grand Canyon and then waiting for an echo.—Don Marquis.

tion is trying to rejuvenate sodbound stands. They plow in the fall, seed flax the following spring and harvest it that fall. Then, an application of fertilizer should stimulate the field to yield a crop of fescue seed the next year.

Even after 20 years of trial and experiment with fescue, it still gets temperamental. Rowe Harris recalls one fifty-acre field that looked grand during its first year. The next year it dashed their hopes when it didn't send out any seed stocks. It clung close to the ground in a dense mat of pasture that was of little use on a farm bare of livestock. The following year, half-convinced that it was hopeless, they watched it lie apparently dormant until the middle of June. Then in a last-minute spurt, it sent through seed stocks and went 500 pounds to the acre.

Yield is unpredictable, too, but Rowe calls 100 pounds to the acre their average annual production from any field, including dry years, and years when the field is being cleaned up for another crop.

Freedom from weeds is the mark of quality seed and the Harrises have been hand-roguing and investing in heavy tillage equipment, to keep the farm clean. Now, with increased competition from other areas, it takes on increased importance, and the brothers are planning for the future again. In the past, like other growers, they have been selling to seed buyers, who scour the country to make up through shipments and finally clean the seed themselves. Now they want to cash in on the vigorous weed control campaign they have been waging, and also on the enviable reputation

already established by Peace River grown seed. So they plan to install their own seed-cleaning equipment and merchandize their crop themselves.

Looking back on nearly three decades in the Peace, most of it with fescue, they point out that it has been an intriguing, and usually profitable crop. But competition is keen, and price fluctuation can be violent. For instance, last year was a hard one. Prices slumped from around thirty cents a pound to ten cents or less. Then, as growers held on, the market strengthened again. Latest word is that growers, though disappointed, are still highly confident about the long-range prospects of the crop. As a soil improving crop, it offers the basis for a stable type of farming for the Peace River district. V

Roughage Self-Feeder

TRAVELLERS on No. 14 highway, a few miles east of Wainwright, Alberta, will see an unusual building near a farmstead, on the north side of the road. Brand new, it is on the farm of Bert Walker, and is built as a roughage self-feeder for cattle. It is 20 by 40 feet in size with 18 foot studding and is set on a concrete foundation. To eat, the cattle shove their heads between the open studs, just off the ground. A lip has been built over the feeding opening on the inside, to prevent feed falling out by itself. Mr. Walker figures that once the building is full of chopped

green feed and hay, it will look after 100 steers for the winter.

His immediate reason for building the structure was to protect a supply of green feed, which had been baled last fall. He didn't get it fed, and fearing to lose it during the summer, he needed to get a roof over it. Now he plans to fill the feeder with well-dried chopped hay and straw each fall, and feed cattle over winter.

Mr. Walker runs purebred Herefords, and feeds steers as well. He is a firm advocate of grass in a farm program on sandy soil, such as he farms. There is plenty of bush and rough pasture in his district, but he has seeded 140 of his 700 cultivated acres to tame hay and pasture. The land is not as good as it once was, he points out, and needs the help of grass to keep it producing. V

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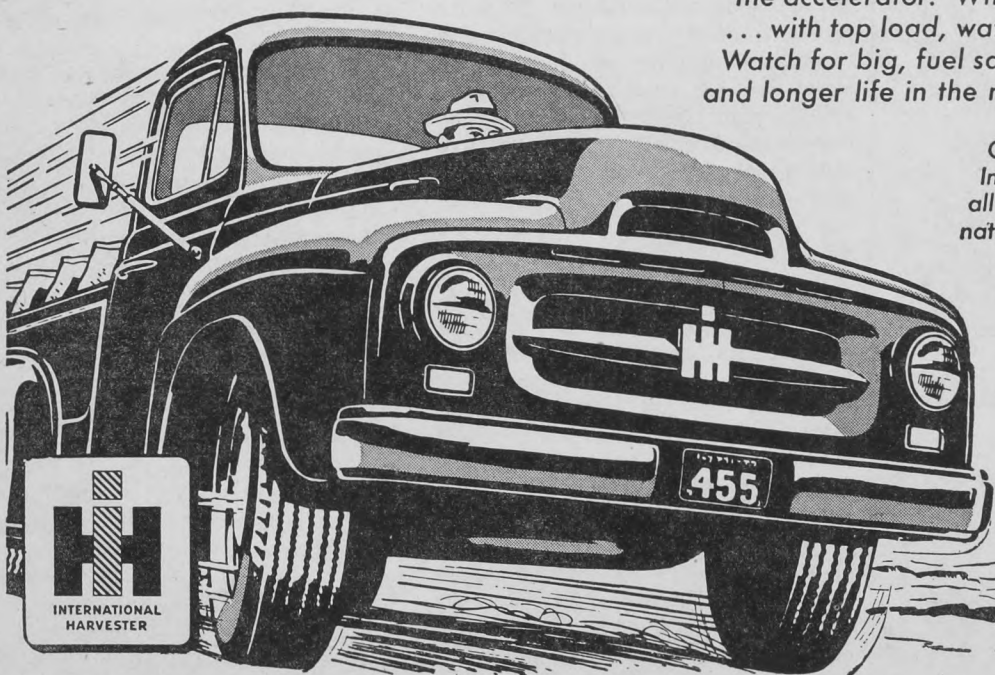
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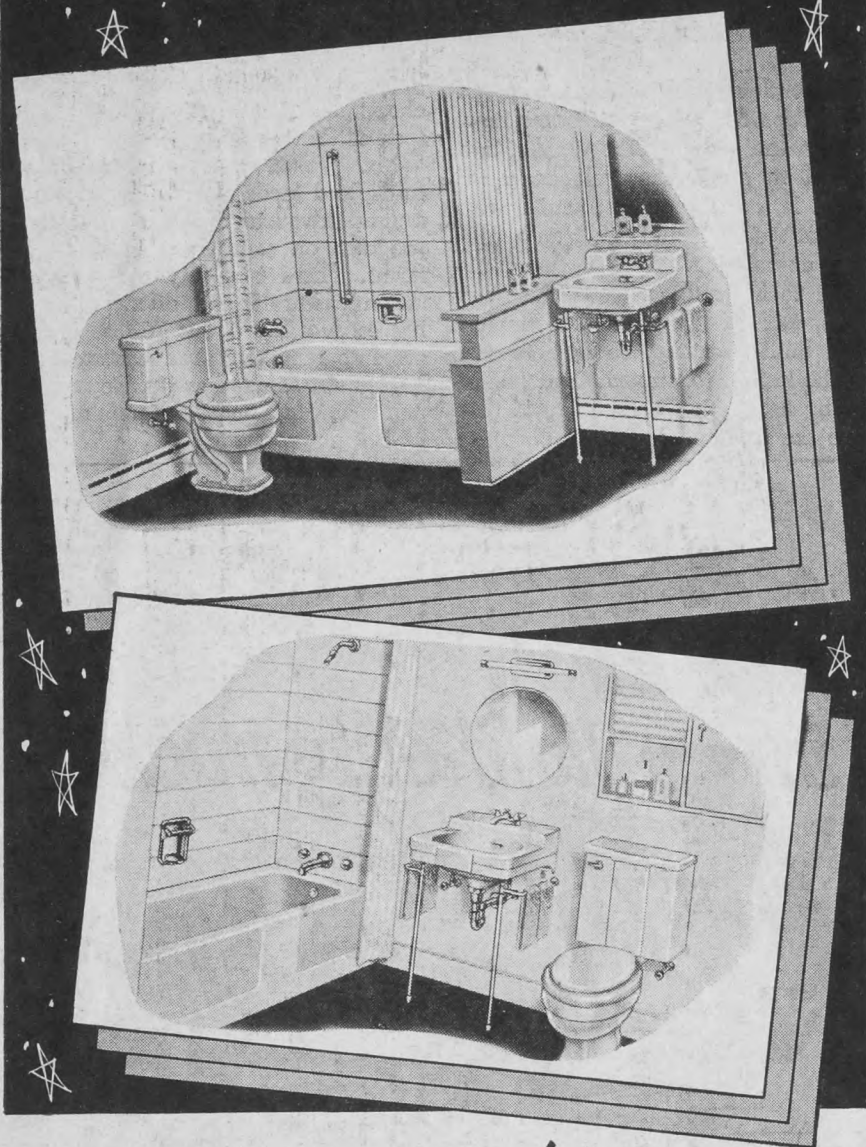
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Benson Speaks To the C.F.A.

Continued from page 7

unless it is efficient to maintain artificial demands for crops that drain the fertility from our soils, or unless it is efficient to destroy the natural relationship between feed and livestock prices, or unless it is efficient to force upon agriculture the diversion of 31 million acres of wheat, cotton and rice. Furthermore, rigid supports do not provide the kind of abundance the U.S. needs for a peace-time economy. We do not need abundance in storehouses," Mr. Benson said. "We need it in stomachs."

This year's wheat crop, though down 125 million bushels from the crop of last year, will run around 845 million bushels. It will still give the United States enough wheat to take care of foreseeable demands, both domestic and export, for two full years to come.

Mr. Benson considered such a situation "a threat to all our farm programs — and more important, a potential threat to our entire economy." Consequently a national wheat allotment of 55 million acres for 1956 had been proclaimed a few weeks previously. If farmers supported this allotment, which would be 23 million acres below 1953, the 1956 crop would be supported at not less than 76 per cent of parity, or \$1.81 per bushel.

SECRETARY BENSON also had a word for dairymen. "A little over a year ago," he said, "the Government of the United States was getting into the dairy business at an unprecedented rate. Milk production was booming to new seasonal highs, month after month. Consumption of butter was moving lower, while huge surpluses of dairy products continued to pile up in Government hands."

"All of this was happening under a program of price supports at 90 per cent of parity. Obviously, the continuation of the very program which had helped to get us into this situation, would never get us out of it. Supports at 75 per cent of parity for the new marketing year were set in accordance with the law . . .

"Now, more than a year later, we are in a position to evaluate the results. To me, the most significant thing is that dairy production has levelled off. Government purchases of dairy products are down sharply . . . Per capita consumption of butter rose about nine per cent in the past marketing year, reversing a long-time downward trend. . . . Our stocks of butter were 37 per cent less than a year earlier. Stocks of cheese were down 17 per cent and stocks of dried milk were down 57 per cent."

THE official meeting of the Federation, which consists of the Board of Directors, representing, officially, the member organizations, was of a somewhat routine nature. Among other matters dealt with was a report of action that had been taken on the resolutions passed at the last annual meeting. Member organizations will, for example, be asked to give careful consideration to the importance of feed freight assistance and the desirability of its continuation. The request of the C.F.A. for support prices on poultry meat and forage crop seeds,

has so far met with no response. The C.F.A. has either made or taken part in representations to the tariff board on several matters relating to farm equipment, including the request of the potato industry for some further tariff protection. The Federation will also seek a clarification of policy from the Department of National Revenue, with respect to income tax returns by farmers and particularly with respect to the review of farm returns and the requiring of net worth statements from farmers, for back years.

The Federation had requested that a Canada No. 1 bacon grade be established and that fresh and processed cuts from A hogs be identified as to grades. The Canada Department of Agriculture is conducting a special series of retail preference tests with a view to finding out whether the proposed grade standard would actually provide a quality of bacon significantly superior to other bacon. The Department apparently believes that trimmed pork cuts from Grade A hogs may not prove to be sufficiently superior to cuts from a lower grade, to justify special identification.

An amendment to the Agricultural Products Marketing Act has been sought, which would permit provincial commodity marketing boards to impose levies. It was hoped that an amendment to bring about this change might be introduced at the present session of parliament, but no assurance had been received that this would be done.

With regard to bringing about greater use of C grade beef, which now contains a wide range of quality, proposals were presented which would break down the C grade into four sub-grades. Due to representations first made by the Maritime Provinces, the Canada Department of Agriculture is now proposing certain changes in the beef grading regulations, which will be presented to producer bodies for study before they are finally approved.

The Board discussed at some length the question of the deductibility for income tax purposes, of annual contributions made by farmers to pension plans which they had themselves set up, or entered into, as a provision for their old age. The annual meeting last January approved a resolution of this type, instructing the Federation to make a study of other income tax deductions for pension plans, with the object of presenting a brief to the government. The work so far done on this question was submitted to the Board for approval.

The C.F.A. directors will meet again in September, and several important questions were deferred for consideration until then, to permit of further study and investigation. The next annual meeting of the Federation will be held in Hamilton, Ontario, in January, 1956.



"We have no trouble getting him to split the wood now."

New Zealand Farms from the Air

Continued from page 10

air-farming work in New Zealand. But many of them now have been written off, and no new ones are being manufactured; so the question of replacement is receiving serious attention. Along with this is the need for determining—perhaps evolving—an aircraft type most suitable for this class of work, since the Tiger Moth, for all its sterling service, is by no means the ideal craft for New Zealand conditions.

Several alternative types have been tried out, some quite successfully, but the quest for the ideal plane continues. It has been suggested that a prototype could be designed and produced in New Zealand, with government assistance, if necessary; and the New Zealand government is considering this. Meanwhile, the De Havilland Aircraft Company, after sending experts "down under" to study the conditions and problems there, has produced its Beaver Aerial Duster, designed to be "capable of spreading superphosphate or other dry chemicals or insecticides in greater volume, at higher speed, less cost and greater safety than any existing agricultural aircraft."

This model came off the production line in November, 1950, and was first used operationally in New Zealand early in 1951. It can be flown at a gross weight of 5,100 pounds, which allows a load consisting of the pilot, 20 Imperial gallons of fuel, oil and a payload of 1,800 pounds. Standard fuel tanks permit a still-air range of 630 statute miles, which can be increased to 910 miles by installing a long-range fuel tank. Notable features of this plane are its ability to lift heavy loads from short fields, slow-flying control (stalling speed 47 m.p.h., working speeds from 60 to 120 m.p.h.) and steep angle climb. It flies in a nose-down attitude, allowing good forward visibility when close to the ground at slow speed. This reduces the risk of striking unexpected obstacles.

Britain's Bristol Aircraft Company is also showing keen interest in the New Zealand developments, and in August, 1950, it held important trials at Plynlimon, North Wales, to test out the suitability of large aircraft for aerial topdressing. The area was selected on account of its resemblance to certain types of New Zealand hill country. In eight flights from its home base at Filton, 85 miles away, a Bristol Freighter aircraft dropped 40 tons of lime and fertilizer over 200 acres of land. This trial proved successful, and showed clearly the possibilities of using large aircraft for aerial topdressing.

Similar trials were staged in New Zealand in 1954, near Masterton, where a Bristol twin-engined Freighter with payloads of six tons of granulated superphosphate, topdressed part of a 4,000-acre property. Each load was spread over an area of about 40 acres, with a target run of approximately one mile. This took the aircraft 24 seconds to traverse, travelling 160 miles an hour at a height of 400 feet. From take-off to touch-down was about eight minutes. During the day, ten trips were made, and 60 tons

dropped, covering an area of 400 acres at a strength of three cwt. to the acre.

WHILE topdressing makes the bulk of the work for farm aircraft in New Zealand, they are also employed for crop-dusting with insecticides, and for spraying against blackberry, ragwort, thistle, and other pest-plants. After difficult country has been cleaned up by this means, fencing materials are flown in, and the process of land development advanced a stage further. Aerial seed-sowing, especially with grasses and clovers, has also proved successful, particularly on the

large mountain sheep runs of the South Island. On one such farm, 200 acres were sown with 2,000 pounds of grass seed in half a morning; areas of up to 6,000 acres have been treated in the same way.

In New Zealand's grim war against the rabbit pest, aircraft are now being used most effectively. One plane can drop poisoned pellets at the rate of ten pounds to the mile, and so lay from two to three tons of poison-baits daily. An hour's run by aircraft has often accomplished more than a whole team of rabbiters working for weeks or months; more efficiently, too, since men on the ground must often by-pass

the steeper pinches, which then become nurseries for reinfestation.

Supplies for outback settlers, and for deer cullers operating in steep mountain country, are now flown in, and dropped in the latter case by parachute—so New Zealand provides ample scope for the application of aircraft to agriculture. One very wide field—the sowing of badly needed lime on the hill country—has scarcely yet been touched in this way, since its cost, using small planes, would be prohibitive. Larger aircraft, however, may yet accomplish this, and so add more millions to New Zealand's farm income. V

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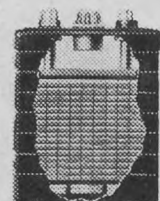
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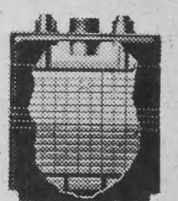
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The Haunted Heart

Continued from page 11

him, but on the other side of the scales, he'd not be forgetting the last time we saw each other any more than I could help remembering it now.

There'd been a shooting scrape in the poolroom in town, and Matt—in the middle of it—had winged Pete Skinner, the deputy's son. I remember coming in from the barn and seeing Beth busy packing him clothes and grub, and seeing Matt all scared and ready to run like a jack rabbit, which was how any 16-year-old kid would feel.

"You're not going anywhere, Matt," I'd said. "You're going to stay here and face up to it like a man. If it happened the way you said, you ain't got no call for to be afraid."

Beth had stopped packing and looked at me as if I was loco.

"You'd turn Matt in?" she asked incredulously, as if my name was Judas instead of Jeff. "You'd turn Matt in and let them lynch him?"

We weren't even thinking in the same language. She was thinking the way Jim had taught her to think, the way a man thinks who has turned his hand against all other men and who has other men's hands turned against him in return. It was just like Jim was standing there telling her what to say and do. Just as if he refused to be buried and peaceful even in death, but had to come back to haunt those who had cared for him. It was the first time I'd felt it so strongly.

"Nobody's going to lynch him, Beth, and it ain't a matter of turning him in. Matt's getting to be a man now and you can't keep hiding him behind your skirts. He's got to face up to things 'stead of running away from them."

"You know what they'll do to him, him being Jim Slater's boy. I won't let you turn him in."

I looked at Matt. I was right fond of that boy. Standing there in the yellow lamplight, he might have been Jim Slater 30 years ago with his big black eyes and the way his shoulders flared out while his waist was wasp-thin. Only Jim's eyes would have been bright and dancing with excitement now because he loved trouble—while the kid's were just plain scared.

At least I'd been able to give him that—a fear of doing wrong and a feeling that laws was for the good of everyone and not, like Jim had thought, something to be flouted. Sure the kid was scared, but running away wasn't the answer and I had to make him see it.

"I've looked on you like my own son, Matt," I said, "figgering that some day when we'd built this spread up into something big, you'd be proud to run it. I've showed you how to take care of stock and how to take care of yourself, even though there's been times when your maw and me ain't seen eye to eye on what's right for you. I've tried to teach you what's right and what's wrong. After that a paw can't do much more for a boy. The boy has to decide things for himself. What do you want to do, Matt—run or face it like a man?"

He looked at me, and for a moment his eyes grew bright. He looked at his maw, at the pitiful, pleading look in her eyes, and all the scaredness and

uncertainty was back in him again. I'd seen men start running for something piddling—a worthless piece of rustling or a row over cards—and they ran all their lives.

"If you run, Matt," I said, "you'll have to keep on running. And you'll have to run alone. If you stay, I'll stand by you."

"Stop trying to turn his head with talk that don't mean nothing, Jeff," Beth said harshly. "He's going and he's going right now, before they come for him. No one's going to stop him, leastwise not with words. He's going to save himself."

I love Beth, but when she talked like that, it was like she'd raked a pair of rowels across my temper. I hardly recognized my voice when I spoke, it was shaking that much.

"You got to make up your own mind, Matt. But if you run, don't ever come back because all you'll bring is trouble."

His black eyes, hurt and uncertain, stabbed at me and the way I felt about that boy, I could feel pain wherever they touched. But what I'd said to Matt when the temper was on me, I'd say again now without anger. I'd done all I could for Matt.

HE was like a wild colt when I brought him and Beth home after Jim died. He was full of spirit and a lot of wrong ideas, but I'd gentled him just like I would a colt, never letting him see the rope that kept him within bounds the while he bucked and reared and wore out his wildness but not his spirit.

And Matt had used his guns the right way in that scrape in town, protecting himself without killing. But if he chose to run from trouble instead of facing it, there wasn't anything else I could do for him.

And if he left, I wanted the break to be clean. I didn't want him dragging his troubles back to Beth. Sooner or later, she'd have to get Jim out of her blood. It wasn't healthy to go on letting a dead man run your life, and it wasn't right to have to go on living over and over something that should have been buried and forgotten years ago. And she'd never forget Jim with Matt dragging the same sort of troubles back year after year to add to her heartbreak.

Beth went on with her packing, so I turned on my heel and left the room. A few minutes later, I could hear the hoofs of Matt's pony drumming across the meadow toward the hills. I undressed and went to bed. But not to sleep.

Beth was a long time coming in from the kitchen.

"You hate him, don't you, Jeff?"

I turned over in bed and opened my eyes.

"I tried to make a man of him, Beth, just like he was my own flesh and blood."

She stood at the window with a dark wool shawl over her shoulders, looking off through the dark at the darker shadows of the hills. She wasn't even listening to what I was saying. It was like I wasn't there, like I'd never really been there.

"You hated Jim and you hate Matt because he's the spitting image of Jim." Her voice was low, lifeless. She might have been talking to herself. "You wanted him to turn out bad. It wasn't enough that Jim was bad. You wanted Matt to turn out bad, too, so

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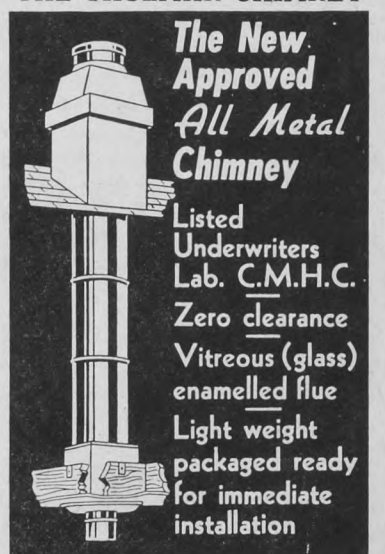
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I'd go on knowing what a mistake I'd made taking Jim instead of you. That's why you gave Matt the guns."

"I gave him the guns because a man needs guns out here. It was time Matt learned how to use guns and how not to use them."

It was like I was talking to a piece of stone. I don't think she heard a word I said.

"You never had any feeling for Matt, Jeff. If you did, you couldn't have said what you did to him. Oh, I remember what you said when Jim died. You said, 'I love you, Beth, and maybe you'll come to love me in time. And I'll be a real father to the boy.' That's what you said." She laughed harshly. "You're a real father all right, telling him not to come back."

There was no use to answer if she wouldn't listen. And if she couldn't see what having that kid ride out into the dark hills alone, hunted, was doing to my insides, nothing I could ever say would make her see.

But as she stood there at the window, alone like I wasn't even there, looking out as if she could see Matt winding and twisting through the hills and as if each twist was drawing a noose a little tighter around her heart, I suddenly knew what I'd been trying to figure out for a long time.

Ever since I'd brought them home, there'd been something that stood between us, holding us apart. It wasn't something you could hogtie and put a brand to. But it was there, like a sore that festered underneath, never coming to a head.

Now it had come to a head, and I understood what the poison was. It was Jim; his memory had haunted us from the beginning. Once I'd thought that if I treated Beth good and tried to bring up her boy right—if I was all those things that Jim Slater had never been—she'd forget Jim in time.

But now I knew I was wrong. I knew it all of a sudden. How could she forget Jim Slater with Matt, the image of him, always there to remind her? It was the way Beth was built. Once she'd given her love to a man, she'd be loyal to him, whether he was worth it or not, and the more people turned against him, the stronger that loyalty would be. I'd have given my right arm to have her feel like that about me.

Then I remembered other little things, like the day I'd given Matt old Ned for riding a horse too hard. Beth had come out of the house, looking at me as if I'd kicked a helpless dog, and put her arm around Matt's shoulder and taken him off to the house. It must have been like I was jumping on Jim so far as she was concerned.

But now Matt had come back and the ghost of Jim Slater was riding double-saddle behind him. No matter how hard we fought it, we were like hill-wild mustangs shut up in a pole corral. The faster we ran, the more we passed the same spot.

THE thing that bothered me most about the trail was that it didn't grow cold. Lightning was my fastest horse, fresh and well-fed, while Broomstick was old and winded before we even started. By all rights, Matt should have been putting plenty of miles between us, but by the time I began to run into the spooky-joshua that sprang up around the water hole, I was closer to him than when we started out.

That made me leery. This scrubby brush was a good place to get bush-whacked, and Matt knew it just as well as I did. The wind was blowing enough to whip up little cones of dust all over the place, and you could never be sure what dust the wind was whipping up and what dust a horse up ahead was kicking up. The sun was glinting on the red rock so it'd be hard to spot Lightning's blood bay hide against them, too.

I got down and led Broomstick through the brush, all the while keeping ready to drop at the crack of a gun. I kept Broomstick's head low so he couldn't let out a sound. It would be funny, I thought, if my own boy shot me. And it was funny that I should use that expression right now—my own boy.

It was awfully quiet, with only the soft rustle of the wind through the leaves. The way I felt, all tense and buttoned up inside, creeping up through the scrubby brush, was nothing to the way Matt must have felt, knowing he was being trailed.

After each step, I stopped and listened. I was very close to him now, and I didn't know what he was up to, holding back like that when he could have been miles ahead.

The silence was shattered by a sharp sound. It was Lightning whinnying, close by. I tethered Broomstick to a bush and, dropping to my hands and knees, pushed on toward the water hole.

It seemed ages, moving like that, but it couldn't have been but a few minutes before I saw Lightning's head. He was stomping nervously around the water hole. I crept up closer, inch by inch.

Then I saw Matt. He was lying face down on a rocky shelf just above the water hole. I got up slowly, my eyes open for a trick. I could see both his hands, stretched out beside him, and he didn't move an inch.

He was hurt. I knew it right away.

"Matt," I called, clearing the space in three jumps. "Matt."

He didn't answer, didn't move. I turned him over. His face was white as a Hereford calf's, his eyes were closed. His shirt was all red and clotted with blood. I wet my handkerchief and raised his head, putting the wet handkerchief against his forehead. It felt hot as a bake-oven to my touch. Finally he opened his eyes and smiled, the crinkly little lines running out from the corners of them.

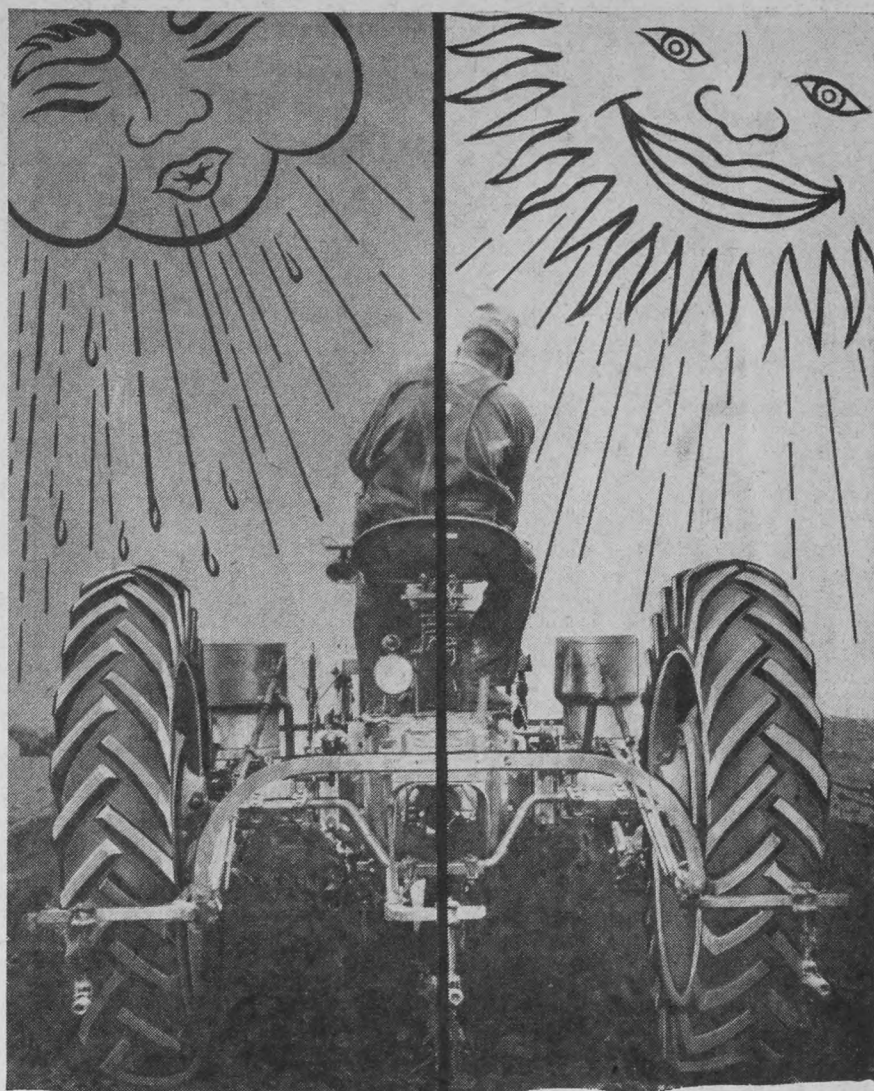
"Paw," he said, as if he was ever so glad to see me. I remembered then that he'd never called me Paw before, only Jeff. "You were right—Paw. I'm so tired of running. If I could—only rest—"

His eyes closed.

"Matt, boy," I said, "wake up, Matt. We're going home so your maw can look after you proper."

He looked so skinny and little and there were dark circles under his eyes. Maybe I should have whipped his ears back and made him stay that night he started his running. Maybe a father can do more for his son than just teach him what's right and what's wrong and leave him to choose. I didn't know, but I knew it was wrong for him to be here like this now, hurt and hunted and alone.

He opened his eyes and looked at me again.



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"I said we're going home, Matt."

"But they're—after me, Paw. They'll make trouble—for you an' Maw—"

"That's what a maw and paw are for, son. If a man can't go home when he needs help and rest, where can he go?"

I picked him up. He was so thin it was like picking up a baby. I tied him onto his saddle with a blanket. Then I led Lightning back to where I'd tethered Broomstick and we started the long, slow drag back.

THE sun was low and red when we rode up to the front porch and I had Matt in the bedroom before Beth knew we were back. When she saw me lowering him down into the bed, her eyes started to fill. I didn't give her a chance to break down.

"Get some rags and hot water. He's bad hurt."

I got him undressed and under the blankets by the time she got back. He was awfully white and quiet now, but his head was hot as a bake-oven.

"Wash his wound and get him bandaged," I told her. "I'm riding to town for a doctor."

She gave me a short look which was enough for me. I started for the front porch where I'd left the horses, still saddled. That was when I saw them.

There must have been ten or twelve in all, coming over from the south, the sun making their horses shine red as they topped the ridge. They looked businesslike, too, with their saddle horns beside them.

I'd plumb forgotten about them.

I felt for my guns, seeing they'd slip easy out of the holsters. Then I walked out across the field to meet them. The hoofbeats sounded like Injun drums, but when they saw me in the field, they pulled up short. They looked tired and dusty.

"We want Matt Slater." A tall man with a face that looked like rawhide spoke for them. "We just found his horse in the pasture, so we know he's here."

I looked them over good.

"Are you the law, mister? I asked.

He laughed. It was a short, ugly laugh.

"Enough law to take care of Matt Slater. Bring him out, mister, or we'll come in and take him."

It made me mad to have him stand on my land and talk to me like that.

"You're on my land, gentlemen," I said, "and unless you have a warrant, I'm giving you just till I count ten to get off."

A little murmur went through the riders. I watched every one of them, watched for the first one to make a move toward his guns. Their horses danced restlessly.

"One—two—three—"

They looked at each other uncertainly, out of the corners of their eyes, and then back at me. But no one made a move to draw. In the end, they'd get me, all right, but the chances were I'd get some of them first. I was planted on solid ground, my feet well-spread, and they were mounted on horses that couldn't keep still.

I could read on their faces what they were thinking. Each one was wondering if he mightn't be the one to get it in that split second before

someone laid me low.

"Four—five—six—"

Still nobody made a move. They knew that the first man to reach would get it.

Suddenly I saw that they were looking over my head. I thought, My God, some of 'em's sneaked around in back of me.

"Nine—"

"Jeff, don't!" There was someone behind me, Beth. "It's no use. He's dead."

My arms were suddenly heavy. I felt them fall to my sides. Sadness fell on me like a human assailant. My boy—gone. The tall man took off his stetson and a few others bared their heads. "Think maybe it's a trick, Joe?" someone asked.

The leader looked at Beth. There was no mistaking the expression on her face. The same voice, somewhere back in the crowd, was talking again.

Resentment tore into my grief. Enough people had looked at Matt with unfriendly eyes when he was alive. It didn't seem right to have them looking at him now.

"A man has a right to rest in peace in his own home," I said. "You come back legal-like, with a warrant the way the law says, and I'll do what the law asks. Now, you're still on my land, gentlemen. You better start moving."

The tall man shrugged. "Okay, mister, if that's how you feel. There's ways to make sure. Let's get moving, boys."

I watched them ride away into the twilight. The wind had stopped blowing. It was awful quiet. I stood there watching.

"Let's go—home, Jeff."

I turned, and Beth was still there, beside me. She was crying softly so that the tears were big and shining as they rolled down her cheeks in the soft light.

I put my arm around her and we walked back to the house. I lighted the lamp in the kitchen. It seemed different now. Beth had stopped crying, but it was as if her tears had washed something away, and when I looked at her, I knew what it was.

The haunted thing—the feeling that a dead man was standing always between us—was gone. Through my own sorrow, I could see the grief in her eyes. But behind the grief there was something else, something that would be there a long time after the grief had gone. Some day it would emerge, some day when this tragedy was farther away from us. And I knew that it would be well worth waiting for.



"Sparky just planted a bone there."

The Countrywoman



Newly elected sub-committee of Board of Federated Women's Institutes of Canada. From left: Mrs. A. B. Carnell, St. John's, Nfld.; Mrs. G. McPhater, Owen Sound, Ont.; Mrs. J. L. Rose, Ochre River, Man., first vice-president; Mrs. J. W. Adams, Ethelton, Sask., national president; Mrs. Keith Rand, Port Williams, N.S., second vice-president; Mrs. W. L. Clark, Conquest, Sask., secretary-treasurer.

Sidelights on F.W.I.C. biennial meeting

by
AMY J. ROE

THE past term since the 1953 conference "had not been spectacular" was the modest appraisal of Mrs. J. W. Adams of Ethelton, Saskatchewan, in her presidential report to the Nineteenth Biennial Convention of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, meeting in Winnipeg, June 13 to 17. She spoke of W.I. members as "happy, busy, doing people"—a testimony amply verified by a wealth of supporting evidence supplied by the outlines of activities furnished by the special conveners and the reports of the provincial organizations across Canada. All ten were represented and gave good accounts. Referring to the wide base of local membership, Mrs. Adams quoted Woodrow Wilson's words to the effect: "that nations are renewed from the bottom, not the top, and a nation is great, and only as great, as her rank and file." She continued:

"Our program is a broad one of education. We cannot make people think but I hope that we can start them thinking. The Women's Institutes have made their weight felt in Canada because of their vigorous growth and their thoughtful approach to the problems of yesterday, today and tomorrow. The need remains for our program today, just as pronounced as ever."

Of yesterday! It was at a 1919 meeting in Winnipeg, that representatives of various provincial Women's Institutes met to consider the matter of setting up a national federation. Its purposes were to be: to co-ordinate, unite and concentrate the efforts of the provincial units; to raise the standard of homemaking; to concentrate on the objectives of the Federation. The first biennial convention was held in Edmonton, two years later, under the able chairmanship of the late Judge Emily Murphy. Such have been the changes in the organization's personnel over the span of 36 years — none of the representatives present at this year's meeting had been at either of those two early meetings.

And today! In common with some half-dozen national women's organizations, the F.W.I.C. feels the need of a national office, a permanent headquarters where records and files may be kept, a full-time secretary, director or supervisor to ease the burden on overworked officers, who, in addition to their own home duties carry on on a voluntary basis, work from widely separate points, at times sorely lacking adequate source material and the inspiration that comes from associating with others interested in the work. Accumulated files and records shift from east to west, or west to east with periodic changes of chief officers. This results in a lack of continuity and makes a sustained policy on some points rather difficult.

In the interval in 1930 came the international Associated Country Women of the World. The affiliation has widened the scope and interests of rural

women's organizations in Canada as well as in many other lands. It has imposed new responsibilities and new duties upon the F.W.I.C.—none of which they now would willingly forego.

For tomorrow! The Federated Women's Institutes of Canada have large plans. These include: a national office, located in Ottawa; the holding of a national convention, probably in Ottawa, some two years hence. In the meantime much must be done to clarify actual proposals, get them written down, considered by the various provincial units and ratified. Adequate funds must be found. With membership now over 90,000 a limitation would have to be made on the number and proportion of voting delegates allotted to the provinces. Two voting delegates for every 500 members would mean some 340 delegates, plus the Federated Board of Directors, that might attend a national convention. Through the years the biennial has been variously called a "meeting-convention-conference" but in practice has been a conference of a number of representatives appointed or elected to office, and counsellors—the latter being women who are conveners of standing committees; the honorary president of the federation; provincial superintendents of W.I. or directors of women's home service in similar relationship to the W.I. of a province; all secretaries or treasurers, who may not be directors.

Three possible ways of raising the money that would finance a national office and staff were mooted for discussion: a voluntary fund built up through special contributions; sale of share capital; possible government grants-in-aid. To those women who have served on F.W.I.C. Boards and struggled to raise the national fee to Federation above the present seven-cents-per-member, the task may look large. But it is not likely to be more difficult than the problems faced prior to 1919. The W.I. provincial groups across Canada now know each other fairly well, have gained in experience and knowledge with the passing years. They have learned the wisdom and the necessity of investing actual money in experience and training for leadership. The funds raised through various projects in some provinces amount to large sums in a given year. Short courses, forums, schools for leadership are finding favor at local and provincial levels. Many competent women are fitted to take and play worthy roles in provincial, national and international affairs.

AN outstanding feature of this year's conference was the award of the Henry Marshall Tory trophy to the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada "for an outstanding contribution to Canadian adult education"—an award given annually in recognition of distinguished achievement, to a program, organization or group, never to an individual. Mr. F. W. Ransom of Winnipeg in making the

award in the form of an oil painting, "The Summer Breeze," by Tom Roberts, a Canadian painter, said that the F.W.I.C. "are to be commended for a unique contribution to the lives of thousands of Canadians, for the improvement of community life and for service abroad." Mrs. Adams, on behalf of the F.W.I.C., accepted the framed painting.

Another feature close to the hearts of the Women's Institute members of Canada was a visit on the Saturday of the week to the International Peace Garden, some 80 miles distant from Winnipeg, on the North Dakota-Manitoba line. The day's journey entailed an early morning start and late night return by bus for some 50 women. There they viewed the plot marked out in the name of the Women's Institutes of Canada, the first organization to buy a plot after the Peace Garden was opened in 1932. Lying opposite is the North Dakota plot. They saw the little information booth which their funds had helped to provide, the sun dial erected in memory of a Mrs. Walker, a former Ontario president, set amid attractive planting of flowers, shrubs and lawn.

IN the afternoon in a quietly impressive ceremony, a picnic nook consisting of a pavilion resting on a cement foundation with strong posts supporting a well constructed roof, capable of seating 25 or more persons, was dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Alfred Watt, the Canadian woman who carried the idea of Women's Institutes to Britain and founded the first such local in Wales. A plaque placed over the end names the F.W.I.C. as donor in memory of Mrs. Watt, who was also first A.C.W.W. president. Mrs. S. Gummow, for many years associated with the late Mrs. Watt in work in British Columbia paid tribute in fitting words: "To those of us who knew her, the world is a better place because of her. May we be faithful to the memory of this great Canadian and continue to uphold the ideal for which she labored."

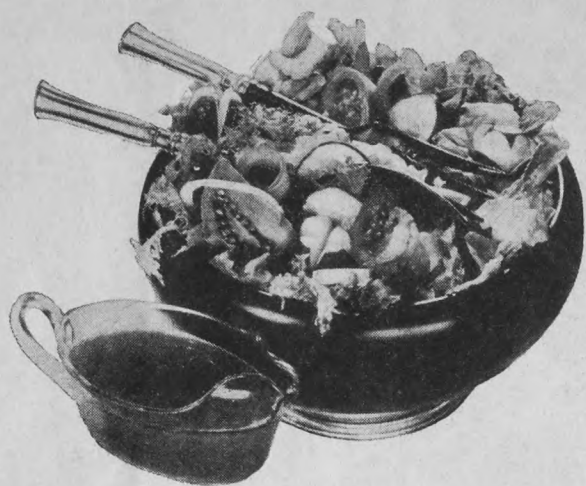
D. G. McKenzie, president of the International Peace Garden Inc., spoke briefly on Symbols of Peace, then Mrs. Adams, president of the F.W.I.C. for another term, cut the tape to officially open the picnic pavilion, standing amid a grove of birches, overlooking a lovely little lake. "Blessed is the leader," said Mrs. Adams, "who has her head in the clouds but her feet on the ground. Blessed is the leader who considers leadership an opportunity for service. Blessed is the leader who seeks the best for those she serves."

The announcement of the Lady Tweedsmuir competitions has now become an eagerly anticipated event of the national meeting. A Saskatchewan Homemakers' Club carried off two cups this year. Pense Club was awarded first among 13 entries for its community history and first in the handicraft section—for (Please turn to page 39)

Planned Summer Picnics

Picnic foods kept cool and fresh in improvised "ice-box" add to the pleasure of friendly gatherings beside the lake or in your own back yard

by LILLIAN VIGRASS



Tossed salads add a crisp, colorful touch.

IT is the picnic season! So gather together family, friends or neighbors and make your plans now. It is well to make the most of the all-too-short season of sunny days and long warm evenings.

A picnic need not be miles from home. For special occasions it is nice to plan a full day of fun out-of-doors at the lake or summer resort. But a backyard picnic under the trees is refreshing and requires little effort; a shady spot beside the creek or in the farm pasture makes a good picnic site.

On the prairies, picturesque picnic areas are not as plentiful as in other parts of Canada. But there is sure to be one or two pleasant spots near at hand or within an hour's driving distance. In Ontario the provincial parks board places picnic tables in attractive shady spots along the highways, for those who wish to stop and eat. Perhaps the idea of setting up local picnic areas could be a project for a local group in your community.

Food is an important feature of any picnic. Just what makes everyone so hungry and why the food tastes so much better served out-of-doors is not known. But you will be wise to take along twice as much food as you would ordinarily serve to the crowd. Second helpings all around will be expected.

Keep the picnic meal simple and hearty, the trimmings at a minimum. Take only the equipment which you positively need and "make do" with disposable paper serviettes, plates and cups. As little work as possible is the order of the day.

Have the gang clean up before you leave the spot. It takes but a few minutes to collect all the paper, cans,

boxes and cartons and burn them in the camp-fire.

THERE are three ways—with many variations and combinations—of serving food at a picnic. The first is to take the raw ingredients to the picnic and everyone help with the out-of-door cooking come mealtime. Another method is to take along cooked food to be served hot. It may be carried in vacuum con-

celery or onion, as you wish. Take it to the picnic along with raw peeled potatoes, large onions and carrots, corn on the cob or other vegetables, making certain there is plenty for the entire gang. Take along, too, a roll of heavy aluminum foil.

At the picnic, an hour before mealtime, assemble the meals individually on 12 or 16-inch squares of aluminum foil. Cut peeled potatoes into two or four pieces lengthwise. Center them on the foil and sprinkle with salt and

Another plan requiring a little more work is to use a wire grill or plain wire rack set on two stones over the bed of coals. A variety of delicious foods may then be reheated or cooked at the picnic site. Try young chicken cut in serving-size pieces and pre-cooked by steaming for a few minutes at home; at the picnic site it can be browned in hot fat and served piping hot. Spare ribs, chops, hamburger and sausage can be successfully grilled over the out-of-doors fire. Canned baked

beans, chili con carne, spaghetti, canned sausage or beef stew may be heated over the fire as the water heats for coffee or tea. Bacon or ham and eggs cooked over the open coals makes delicious picnic fare. Picnic foods somehow are even more tasty than the same foods prepared at home.

It isn't necessary to have a fire to enjoy chicken or sausage at a picnic. Chicken-in-a-basket may be served hot or cold, chicken salad is always good picnic fare and sausage rolls are delightful served cold. Potato salad, hard-cooked or devilled eggs, cheese, crisp green salads, pickles, radish, celery and buttered rolls are all part of a cold-salad meal.

As for a beverage, take along cans of fruit or tomato juice or bottles of milk for the children—and adults, too, if there is no hot water available for making tea or coffee. At many of the picnic grounds hot water is supplied free of charge; then, with the new instant coffees available, either tea or coffee takes but a jiffy to prepare.

For dessert after a hearty main course, tarts are easier to handle than a pie; a cake baked, iced and carried in a covered casserole stays fresh. Fresh fruits make a simple but delightful ending to a picnic meal.

THE method of packing and transporting the food to the picnic is important. Salad vegetables will keep fresh and crisp in plastic bags or glass jars. Chop the onions and celery fine, slice radishes, shred cabbage and tear the greens into bite-size pieces. Keep the cucumbers and tomatoes whole to be cut into the salad when it is mixed. Take the dressing along in a separate jar and keep all the salad makings really cool.

Devilled eggs, sliced meats and potato and meat salads—which are



Fried chicken served with tossed green salad makes delicious picnic fare.

tainers or reheated at the picnic spot. The third and most usual way, and easiest to plan if you are not sure of your destination, is a salad meal, prepared ahead of time, kept chilled and served with a hot or cold beverage at the picnic. Potato and tossed green salads, cold sliced meats, hard-cooked eggs and dessert is usual fare.

An all-in-one meal roasted in aluminum foil in the open fire is perhaps the easiest to prepare. Boy Scouts use it upon occasion. Once you try it you will use it often, with your own variations.

A prerequisite is that a fire is allowed at the picnic site. You must, of course, see before leaving that it is entirely extinguished even on the stillest day or after a rain. If a wind blows up or a spark gets on dry wood or paper in the area a destructive fire may result in thousands of dollars damage.

For a foil-cooked meal season hamburger with salt and pepper; add chopped green pepper,

pepper. Top with a thick slice of onion. Add a large patty made of the prepared hamburger, then another slice of onion. Season again; add several pieces of corn on the cob or small carrots.

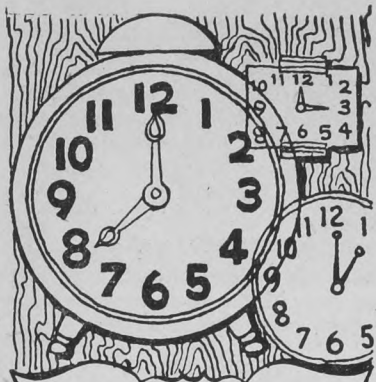
Then lift opposite sides of the foil and fold edges together in the manner used for wrapping parcels in the drug store. Use a drug store wrap, too, to close each end of the packaged meal.

After making sure each parcel is ash-proof, drop it into the coals of the fire. After 20 minutes turn the parcels over and cook another 20 minutes. Rake them out of the coals and allow to cool for a few minutes. Brush off the ashes and place one at each place on the picnic table.

The foil serves as plates for the meal. The only utensils needed will be a fork and cup for each person, a pot for boiling water for tea or coffee and serving dishes for the extras. Serve with this packet meal a tossed green salad, buttered rolls or bread, pickles, celery and radish curls, a beverage and dessert. Who could ask for more?



Picnic "ice-box" keeps food fresh and cool until serving time.



Anytime
is
Paulin's
TIME



- CHEESE CAKE DE LUXE**
- 1/2 box PAULIN'S Graham Wafers
 - 1/2 cup butter or shortening
 - 2/3 cup sugar
 - 1 lb. cream cheese
 - 1 teaspoon lemon rind
 - 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 - 1/2 cup finely cut fruit (fresh or tinned)
 - 2 eggs (separated)

Roll graham wafers fine. Rub in butter or shortening to form crumbly mixture. (With shortening add a little grated lemon and dash of cinnamon.) Press half of crumbs into bottom of a square cake tin. Cream the cheese with sugar. Add lemon juice and rind. Mix well. Add beaten egg yolks and finely cut fruit. Fold in beaten egg whites. Place over the layer of cracker crumbs. Top with remaining crumbs. Bake at 325° for 35 minutes or until a silver knife comes out clean.

Babies and Children love Arrowroot Biscuits.



Paulin's
Manufacturers of biscuits and confections for more than 75 years

mixed at home—must be cooled quickly, then kept really cold until serving time. Buttered buns, bread and sandwiches should be kept cool.

Although everyone feels it can't happen to them, the danger of food poisoning is ever present during the summer months. At this time of year extra precautions should be taken in preparing and keeping food. All fresh fruits and vegetables should be thoroughly washed; all cooked foods should be refrigerated. Custard and cream pie, chicken and potato salads are the most frequent offenders; cool them quickly and refrigerate as soon as cool. By keeping all food really cold there is little need to worry about possible unpleasant after-effects from your outings this summer.

An improvised, but effective, "ice-box" will solve the problem of keeping the picnic meal cold on a hot day. Cover the bottom of a large pail, preserving kettle, big roaster or old-fashioned washtub with a layer of wet newspapers, then a layer of crushed ice. Put in the food which has been packed in tightly covered jars or plastic waterproof bags. Add another layer of crushed ice and more wet newspapers, then insulate the entire "ice-box" by wrapping it in a blanket or several layers of newspapers. Keep it out of the sun and away from the heat. Remove wrappings when it is time to serve.

Another suggestion is to pack the food around cans of frozen tomato or fruit juice. Put the unopened cans of juice in the freezing compartment of the 'frig' overnight. Before packing, wrap them in waxed paper or plastic bags to protect the food from moisture condensation and use them in place of ice in your home-made "ice-box". The food will keep cool from four to six hours by which time the juice will have melted and be ready to serve.

If there isn't time to freeze the juice make use of the same idea by filling small-size plastic waterproof bags with crushed ice or ice cubes. Close the bags securely and pack them in the container with the food. In this case the meal need not be packed in waterproof containers. It will stay really cool for several hours.

Chicken-in-a-basket

Cut chicken into serving-size pieces. Wipe clean. Coat with seasoned flour or egg and crumbs. Fry in one-half inch of fat for 5 minutes on each side. Cover and allow to cook 25 to 30 minutes or until tender. Drain on crumpled brown paper. Cool, then refrigerate. Pile in a basket to be eaten with the fingers.

Chicken Salad

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4 c. diced cooked chicken | 1 c. French dressing |
| 2 c. finely sliced celery | 1/2 c. salad dressing |
| 1/2 c. sliced ripe olives | 1/4 c. slivered almonds |
| Lettuce | Tomatoes or radish |

Place a six-pound fowl in water to cover. Add 1 T. salt. Simmer until tender. Remove from broth and chill. Remove meat from bones. Combine diced chicken, celery, olives and almonds and French dressing. Cover. Chill 2 hours or more. At serving time blend with salad dressing. Heap loosely on lettuce. Garnish with sliced tomatoes or crisp radish. Serves 4 to 6.

Sausage Rolls

Parboil small pork sausages for 5 minutes. Roll regular pastry about 1/8 inch thick. Cut in oblong strips and roll around small parboiled sausage. Bake at 425° F. for 30 minutes. Serve cold.



"YOU'LL BE GLAD
YOU WAITED FOR

B.C.
Fruits!"
Preserving

It takes the BEST fresh fruit
to make the BEST preserves
and B.C. fruit is the best!

Best for FLAVOR

Best for QUALITY

Best for PRICE

B. C. Fruit is grown farther north than most, and is left on the trees until the last possible minute for maximum sugar content and flavor—so it comes on the market a little later than fruit from some other districts. The best is always worth waiting for . . . particularly when it's "home grown".



Then there's the matter of price. Only with B. C. fruit can you be sure of the best "peak-of-the-season" prices — B. C. is the only producing area that markets almost all its preserving fruit in Western Canada. You'd regret buying imported fruit, only to find that B. C. fruit later became available at more attractive prices.

If you're proud of your home-preserving,
and your budget — **YOU'LL BE GLAD
YOU WAITED FOR B. C. FRUIT!**
Don't be talked into substitutes.

PLAN YOUR CANNING AND PRESERVING FOR B.C. FRUIT TIME

CHERRIES: Plentiful supplies starting about July 15th. Preserving season will last about 4 weeks.

APRICOTS: Preserving season will likely start the week of Aug. 1st and last about three weeks.

The fruit growers of B. C. plan to keep you fully informed about their fruit crops, and the right preserving times. Watch for further informative ads in this paper headed "Your B. C. Fruit preserving guide".



For best home-preserves
at best prices—
wait for
B.C. Preserving Fruits

WHEN days are scorching hot a long, cool drink is sure to appeal to everyone. Have on hand the makings for several kinds. They take but a few minutes to make.

Fruit juices or milk form the basis of many favorites and ice cream is added for sodas and milk shakes. If canned sweetened fruit juices are used little or no sweetening will be needed. Lemon adds a tart flavor to a summer drink and, sometimes, for a novel flavor, a dash of spice may be added.

Sugar syrup, coffee and chocolate syrup made beforehand and stored in the refrigerator do away with the time and bother of trying to dissolve sugar and other ingredients in a cold drink.

A cool, frosty touch is essential. Ice cubes in which a twist of lemon or orange, a cherry or bit of fruit is frozen add color and flavor. Ginger ale or soda water add extra sparkle. As for glasses tall tumblers filled from a pitcher or small punch cups and punch bowl serve equally well. Long-handled spoons and glass or plastic straws are attractive and convenient.

Sugar Syrup

- | | |
|------------|-----------------------|
| 1 c. water | 1 c. granulated sugar |
| Pinch salt | |

Boil together in open saucepan for 5 minutes. Cool and store in refrigerator. Use 1¼ tsp. to replace 1 tsp. sugar in cold drinks.

Chocolate Syrup

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| ½ c. cocoa | ½ tsp. salt |
| ½ c. sugar | 1 c. water |
| 2 tsp. vanilla | |

Put sugar, cocoa and salt in saucepan. Stir; add water and boil 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Cool slightly. Add vanilla; pour into jar. Cool and store in refrigerator.

Cool Drinks

When the weather's hot take your choice of refreshing thirst-quenching drinks



On a hot summer day ice-cold lemonade really hits the spot.

Chocolate Milk

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| 2 to 3 T. chocolate syrup | 1 c. milk |
|---------------------------|-----------|

Pour into shaker or jar. Shake vigorously. Pour over ice into tall glass. Serve plain, or with sweetened whipped cream flavored with vanilla.

Home-Style Sodas

Fill each glass ¾ full with crushed sweetened fruit of your choice. Add ½ c. milk and a large scoop of ice cream. Fill to brim with well chilled ginger ale

or soda water. Give mixture a quick stir, add straws and serve.

Double Chocolate Sip

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1 pint chocolate ice cream | 3 c. milk and 6 to 8 T. chocolate syrup |
| 3 c. chocolate milk or | |

Beat half package of ice cream with chocolate milk until melted. Pour into glasses. Top with remaining ice cream. Garnish with whipped cream and a cherry.

Lemonade

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| ¾ c. sugar syrup | 2½ c. water |
| ¾ c. lemon juice (4 lemons) | Ice |

Shake or stir well together. Pour over ice in tall glasses.

Tea Punch

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| ½ c. sugar syrup | ½ c. pineapple juice |
| 1 c. tea | |
| ½ c. lemon juice | 1½ c. water |
| 1 c. orange juice | |

Make tea from 2 tsp. green or black tea. Cool well. Add all but sugar syrup; add it carefully so drink is not made too sweet. Pour over ice.

Popsicles

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1½ c. orange juice | 1 c. milk |
| ¼ c. sugar | 2 tsp. lemon juice |
| Dash salt | |

Mix ingredients well. Pour into partitioned ice tray. Place in freezing section. When partially frozen insert clean popsicle sticks in each cube. Freeze solid (2 hours). To keep sticks upright cover tray with waxed paper. Punch sticks through paper to hold them erect.

Fruit Punch

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 c. syrup from canned fruit | 1 c. orange juice |
| 1 c. grape juice | ¾ c. lemon juice |
| | ¾ c. water |
- Mix well. Pour over crushed ice.

Iced Tea

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| 2 lemons | 7 c. tea |
| 1 lime | ¼ c. sugar |

Make tea medium to weak in strength. Strain; add sugar; cool. Squeeze lemons and lime. Add to tea. Refrigerate.

Pineappleade

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 c. crushed pineapple | ¼ to ½ c. sugar syrup |
| 2 c. boiling water | 1 c. orange juice |
| 3 T. lemon juice | |

Pour boiling water over crushed pineapple; set aside to cool. Strain. (If desired, 2 c. canned pineapple juice may be substituted). Add remaining fruit juice. Mix well. Serve with ice.

Caribbean Cooler

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 c. mixed diced fruit | 2 T. sugar syrup |
| 1 c. orange juice | 1 c. pineapple juice |
| 4 scoops ice cream | Ginger ale or soda water |

Combine mixed fruits (berries, sliced peaches, etc.), and sugar syrup. Put ½ c. mixture in each of 4 glasses. Add ¼ c. each of orange and pineapple juice and large scoop ice cream to each glass. Fill to top with chilled ginger ale. Serve immediately.

Fruit Eggnog

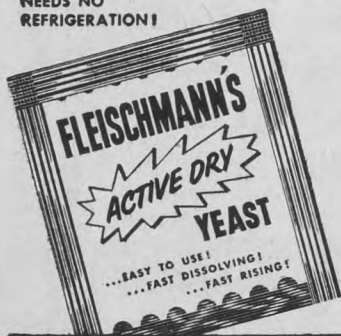
- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 egg | 2 tsp. sugar or sugar syrup |
| ¾ c. raspberry juice | |

Separate egg; beat white until light. Add 1 tsp. sugar and continue beating until stiff but still moist. Beat yolk slightly. Add 1 tsp. sugar and fruit juice. Fold into beaten white. Serve very cold in tall glass.

3 Dessert Treats from One Basic Dough!

It's easy with wonderful active dry yeast!

NEEDS NO REFRIGERATION!



Say goodbye to humdrum meals! Turn one tender-rich sweet dough into these three yummy dessert treats! It takes no time at all with amazing Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast! This lively, zesty yeast acts fast... gives you perfect risings every time. If you bake at home, buy several packages now!

BASIC FRUIT DOUGH

Prepare

- 1½ cups bleached or sultana raisins, washed and dried
- ½ cup finely-cut candied citron
- ½ cup broken walnuts or pecans

Scald

- 2 cups milk

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm.

In the meantime, measure into a small bowl

- ½ cup lukewarm water
- 2 teaspoons granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved.

Sprinkle with contents of

- 2 envelopes Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well.

Sift together three times

- 4 cups once-sifted bread flour
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 4 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon grated nutmeg

- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves
- ¼ teaspoon ground mace

Cream in a large bowl

- ½ cup butter or margarine
- ¾ cup lightly-packed brown sugar

Gradually beat in

- 1 well-beaten egg

Stir in lukewarm milk, dissolved yeast and sifted dry ingredients; beat until smooth and elastic. Mix in prepared fruits and nuts.

Work in

- 3½ cups (about) once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 3 equal portions and finish as follows:

1. Chop Suey Loaf

Knead ¼ cup well-drained cut-up maraschino cherries into one portion of the dough. Shape into a loaf and fit into a greased bread pan about 4½ by 8½ inches. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, about 40 minutes. Brush top of hot loaf with soft butter or margarine.

2. Butterscotch Fruit Buns

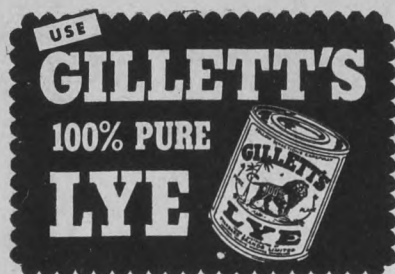
Cream together ½ cup butter or margarine, ½ teaspoon grated orange rind, ¼ cup corn syrup and 1 cup lightly-packed brown sugar. Spread about a quarter of this mixture in a greased 9-inch square cake pan; sprinkle with ½ cup pecan halves. Roll out one portion of dough on lightly-floured board into a 9-inch square. Spread

almost to the edges with remaining brown sugar mixture; roll up loosely, jelly-roll fashion, and cut into 9 slices. Place each piece, a cut side up, in prepared pan. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, about 30 minutes. Stand pan of buns on a cake cooler for 5 minutes before turning out.

3. Frosted Fruit Buns

Cut one portion of dough into 18 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball. Place, well apart, on a greased cookie sheet. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, about 15 minutes. Immediately after baking, spread buns with a frosting made by combining 1 cup once-sifted icing sugar, 4 teaspoons milk and a few drops almond extract.





Lye Best For All Farm Sanitation

Despite many new aids to sanitation, lye remains by far the most effective single cleansing and sanitizing agent for general farm use.

CHEAP AND AVAILABLE

Lye is sold practically everywhere. There is seldom any problem or delay in getting what you need. It is extremely economical. Using two tablespoons per gallon of water, lye gives you a first class cleaning and sanitizing solution for *little over 1¢ a gallon!*

KILLS MANY GERMS

Lye also kills many germs, viruses, and parasites harmful to farm poultry and animals. Under normal conditions, lye cleaning is all that is needed to maintain flocks and herds in perfect health.

"ONE-TWO" CLEANING

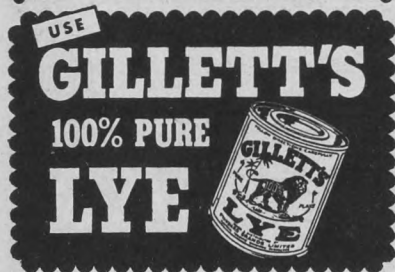
Way the most popular lye in Canada is Gillett's 100% Pure Flake Lye. One reason for this is Gillett's "One-Two" cleaning action that not only removes grease, but also washes the surface with soap solution in one single application! It works like this:

ONE — Gillett's Lye solution actually attacks grease, oils, animal fats . . . lifts them off rough, hard-to-clean surfaces.

TWO — Gillett's Lye reacts chemically with these fats to make a mild soap solution! This soap then washes the grease-free surface . . . leaves it fresh-smelling, spotlessly clean, and sanitary!

A further reason for Gillett's popularity is that being flaked it is safer to use than if powdered; there is less chance of it getting under the skin, up the nose or in the eyes.

GLF-123



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Please Mention The Guide.

For Sunburn



THE VASELINE
BRAND IS YOUR
GUARANTEE OF
PURITY

Promotes
Healing



THE FIRST AID KIT IN A JAR

The Countrywoman

Continued from page 35

an outfit for a six-year-old girl, consisting of coat, hat, play clothes and night attire. From the 16 paintings which came from nine provinces, the one submitted by Mrs. G. V. McBride of Port Arthur, was placed first. Mrs. W. A. Thomson who accepted the trophy for Pense said later in private interview the local histories prepared by Homemakers Clubs in Saskatchewan were in great demand as source material to assist local communities in arranging Jubilee celebrations. Some clubs experienced difficulty in getting them released because they were in such demand by committees of various kinds, working on the province's birthday celebrations.

The scope and variety of Women's Institutes' interests and activities are conveyed through the reports prepared and presented to the biennial by conveners of standing committees. They contain the real story of the work, and merit special and separate treatment, if one wishes to extract the gist and meaning of W.I. work. The reports represent much thought and effort on the part of conveners who compiled them, and who in many cases were instrumental in interpreting the work and its importance to members in the province. These fall under five general headings: agriculture and Canadian industries; home economics; welfare and health; citizenship; cultural activities; United Nations and international exchange programs. A member of a committee working on the preparation of a brief for the Tory award, Mrs. Gilean Douglas remarked that: "It is sometimes difficult to tell what comes under which"—so numerous are the subdivision headings and the possible overlapping of subjects.

These long and often detailed reports were in mimeograph form and will be available for consideration and study in each province, and will likely appear in condensed form in the printed proceedings of the 1955 convention. They show local and practical projects nicely balanced against larger national and international more abstract subject studies.

A REPORT on the Associated Country Women of the World was presented by the honorary president, Mrs. Hugh Summers of Fonthill, Ontario, who is also an A.C.W.W. area vice-president. A full day's session was devoted to that report and business arising out of it. The Ninth Triennial Conference is expected to meet in Ceylon in December, 1956.

Immediate plans were concerned with resolutions which would emanate from Canadian member societies; the possible number of representative delegates who plan to attend. At present it would appear that some 15 delegates might attend the Ceylon meeting, though plans of individuals might change in the meantime. It will not be possible to plan this time for travel as a Canadian party as some may decide to leave from the west coast and others from the east.

Prior to that meeting Mrs. Berry of Australia, president of the A.C.W.W., plans to make a speaking-tour of the ten Canadian provinces. It is expected that Mrs. Berry will arrive in British Columbia probably on May 25, 1956,

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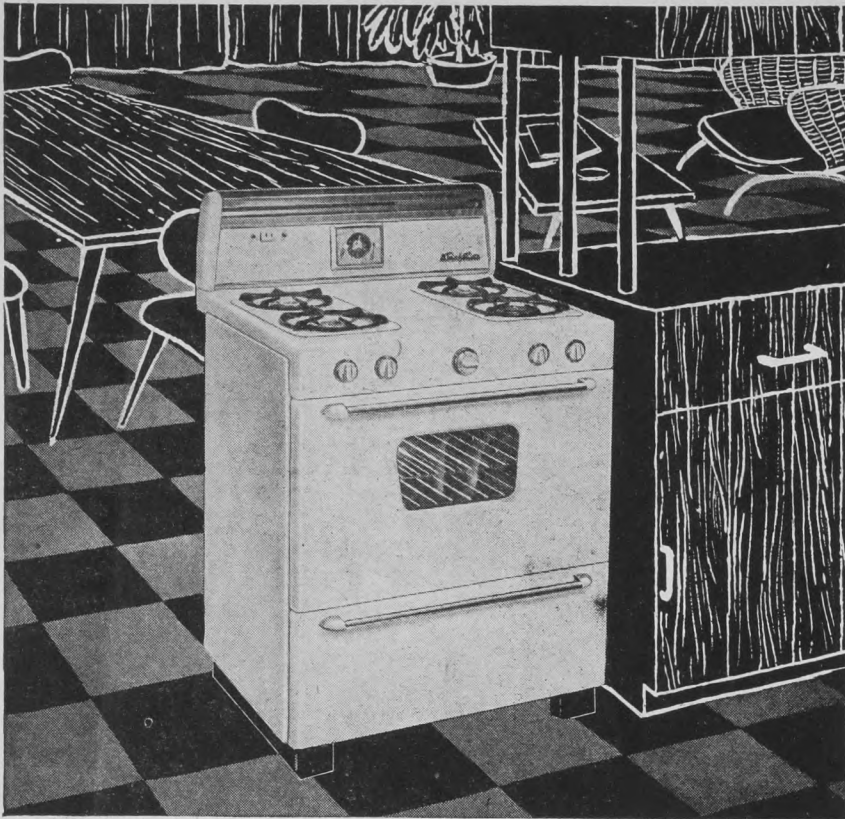
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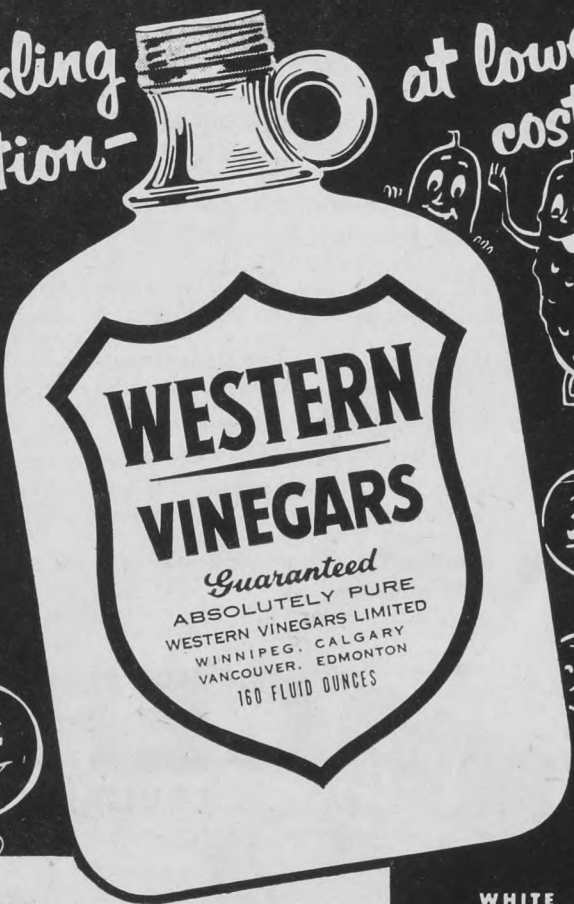
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and will arrange her itinerary dates so as to have opportunity to meet with and speak to W.I. groups or conventions in each province, those dates to be later set and announced. Leaving Prince Edward Island she will proceed to Newfoundland and arrive in New York in time to attend a United Nations meeting July 9 to 12, 1956.

MRS. GRAHAM SPRY, representative of F.W.I.C. on central committee in London, sent a friendly newsletter to F.W.I.C. pointing out the importance of personal international contacts. Mrs. George Roberts in New York keeps the A.C.W.W. in touch with United Nations and with its various subdivisions and specialized agencies. The Secretary-General of UN at a conference called to discuss methods of disseminating information, stressed the importance of the work of Non-Government Organizations (NGO) in educating the public. In addition the A.C.W.W. is in touch with other women's international organizations and through its liaison committee has been represented at many important international conferences.

"It is important," wrote Mrs. Spry, "that the point of view of rural women throughout the world should be heard at international gatherings by international authorities and that women on farms and in villages in turn shall hear of and understand the problems and activities of international agencies. How far are the F.W.I.C. and other member societies prepared to go in providing funds and workers to enable the A.C.W.W. to discharge its responsibilities as observer and spokesman for the country women of the world? Are there perhaps other uses for the available money and manpower which will be more fruitful?"

Uses for Old Jar Rings

YOU can make a sink mat that will keep your sink from becoming scratched and unsightly, and one that will cost you practically nothing, if you sew seven old used fruit jar rings together. Place one ring in the center and surround it with the other six, tacking them securely in place, so that the finished mat lies flat and each ring is firmly fastened to those surrounding it.

Extension lamp cords sometimes create a dangerous situation, but you can correct it this way. Loop a rubber jar ring around the cord. Then hook the ring over a nail or thumb-tack fastened in the baseboard. I like this method far better than using staples or tacks because the soft rubber will not damage the lamp cord. And it will also "give" a little should any sudden strain be applied to the cord.

Glue jar rings to the underside of the dough board to keep it from sliding over the table while you are kneading dough, especially light bread.

When cold-packing jars without a rack, slip a used jar ring over each jar. This will prevent their bumping against one another.

To amuse the children on a rainy day I devised a game of indoor horse-shoes, using two soft drink bottles and ten jar rubbers. The object was to ring the bottle. Each child in turn was given five chances.—B. Campbell.



Very often at teething time baby suffers from the added discomfort of constipation. This condition tends to cause restlessness and irritation. During this period try Steedman's Powders, the standby of mothers for more than 100 years, they act safely and effectively as a gentle laxative. At your druggist's.

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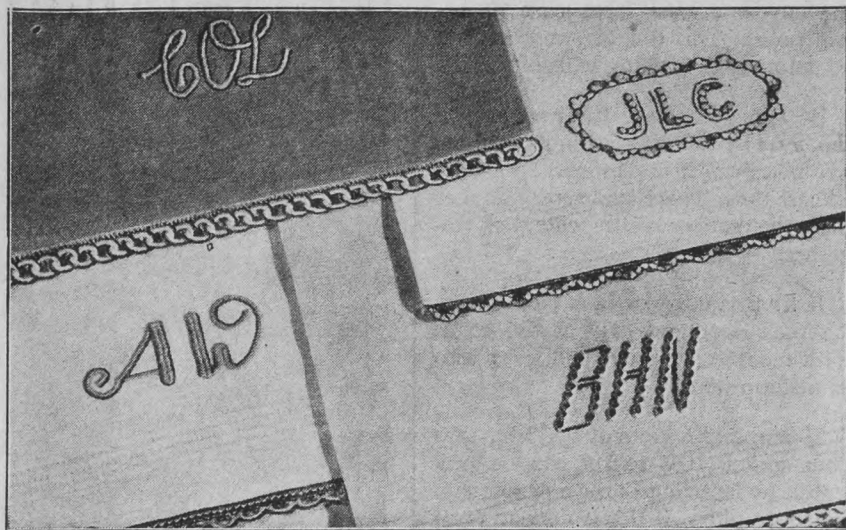
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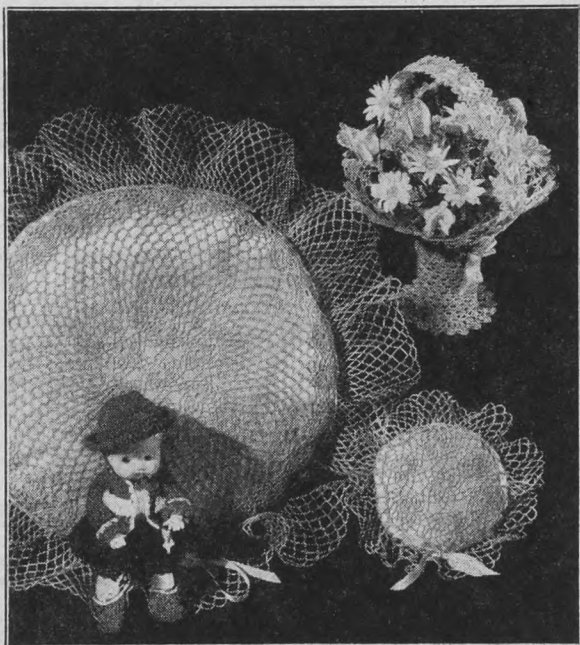
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Crocheted monograms on guest towels is a new idea. You will enjoy trying it. There are six designs included in the pattern—and six matching edgings. Made in varicolored crochet and applied to pastel or white

towels, they make a thoughtful gift or lovely addition to your own bath and bedroom. You will need size 70 crochet cotton and a No. 10 steel crochet hook. Design No. C-TW-362. Price 10 cents.

Design No. CS-161

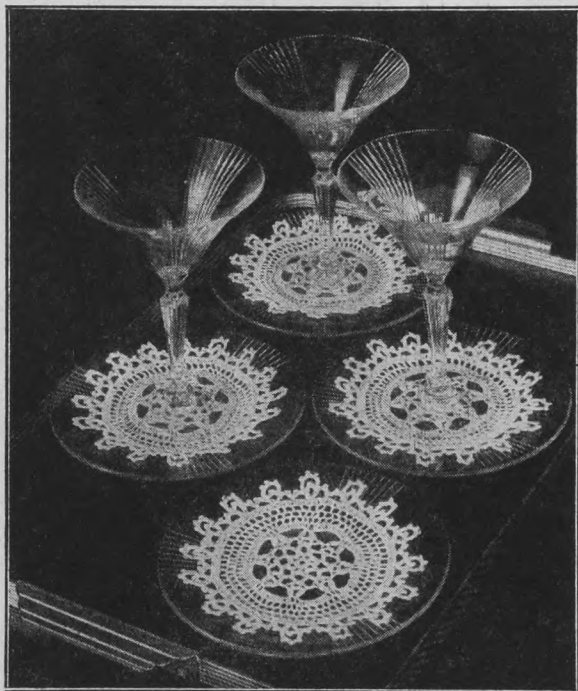
Pillow and pincushion, a tiny flower basket and cowgirl doll make a novel accessory group for a girl's room. The cushion cover fits a 14-inch circular pillow, the pincushion is five inches across. The flower basket fits over a tall glass 2½ inches in diameter. The doll clothes fit a doll eight inches tall. You will need for pillow and pincushion 6 small balls size 30 crochet cotton and a No. 10 steel hook. The flower basket requires 2 balls size 30 crochet cotton and a No. 9 steel hook. The cowgirl outfit requires 3 balls Spanish red and 1 ball each of black and white size 5 pearl cotton; a No. 7 steel hook. Design No. CS-161. Price 10 cents.



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Crisp crocheted doilies add gaiety to the tea-time tray or dining table. These sherbet doilies, each six inches in diameter, can be easily made in your spare moments this summer. Make a set for your own table, another as a gift or bazaar item. For six doilies you will need one large ball size 50 crochet cotton and a No. 12 steel crochet hook. Design No. C-7572. Price 10 cents.

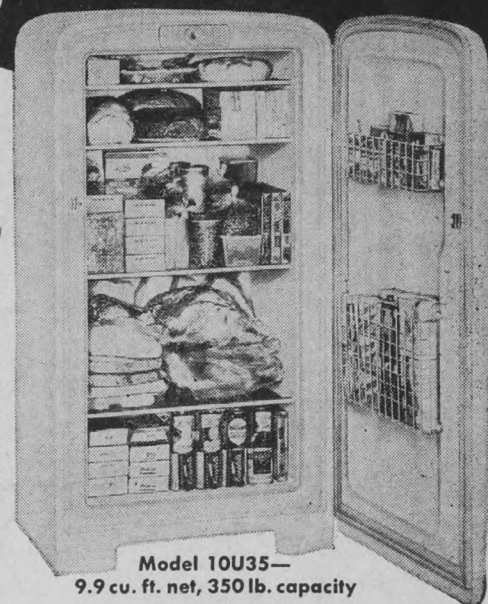
Address your orders to The Country Guide Needlework Dept., 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg 2, Manitoba.



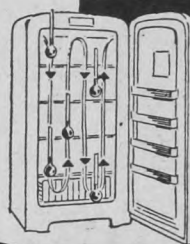
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Useful Ideas

by TED OTSU

If you want to make sure that your letters cannot be opened by someone steaming them to soften the glue on the envelope, seal them with fingernail polish. This is moistureproof and no amount of steaming will soften it.

Be sure to release the pressure on the rolls of a washing machine wringer, even if it stands idle for only a short time. There is always a danger that the rubber rolls will stick together.

If transparent plastic is tacked over a screen door and held at the edges with molding strips, it will serve also as a storm door.

If lamp bulbs are removed from outdoor sockets, the socket can be protected by inserting burnt-out, screw-in type fuse plugs. If this is done to open sockets indoors, a chance of an accident is avoided.

If you use thin oilcloth as a lining for dresser drawers or shelves and want it to stay put until it wears out, give the surface to be covered a thin coat of shellac and place the oilcloth on while the shellac is still wet. The shellac will serve as a glue when dried.

Unusual drapery tiebacks can be had by making up chains from celluloid poultry leg bands, which are available in a number of sizes and bright colors, enabling you to make an appropriate selection.

Separate two glasses which are stuck together by putting the outside glass in warm (not hot) water and, at the same time, put cold water into the inside glass.

A steaming in the bathroom will help take excess electricity out of a taffeta dress. Ordinarily, taffeta will generate electricity when it rubs against a silk or rayon slip.

Picture Patches

I find the knees of small boys' overalls wear out much too quickly. Since my son has been two years old I have been putting patches on his overalls and slacks, patches of a kind that the little fellow enjoys wearing and likes showing to his playmates.

They are made of brightly colored material cut in the shape of the head of an animal, baseball bat and ball, moon or star. These are applied over the worn spot on each knee. Similar ideas for decorative patches can be found in coloring books and children's story books. For a larger hole a patch in the shape of a little red schoolhouse may be applied. For the worn spot on the back of a pair of trousers I find a walrus-head patch makes a convenient cover-up. To add to a youngster's enjoyment embroider the eyes, nose, mouth, whiskers, windows, doors or other accessories onto these picture patches.

To make the garment last longer the patches may be stitched on with the sewing machine; the markings may be made with crayon. After each washing the lines should then be traced over with crayon again and pressed with a hot iron.—Mrs. L. Jacobsen.

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No. 1119—A party dress with molded princess lines that flow into a whirling five-yard skirt is just right for school parties all next year. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 14 requires $5\frac{3}{4}$ yards 39-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4893—Combination princess and long-waisted look sets the style for informal parties. Skirt flares six yards wide. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 14 requires $5\frac{7}{8}$ yards 39-inch; $4\frac{1}{4}$ yards 54-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 1085—A simple sheath jumper with sweaters or shirtwaist goes happily to class; add the puff-sleeved blouse for more festive occasions. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 18 years. Size 14 requires $1\frac{1}{2}$ yards 54-inch; blouse $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards 36-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 4685—A can-can petticoat is a must for dress-up occasions. Semi-circular petticoat has three nylon net ruffles edged in bias binding. Waist sizes 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches. Size 28 requires $2\frac{3}{4}$ yards 36-inch material; 2 yards 72-inch net and 4 yards bias binding. Price 35 cents.

All patterns printed; instructions in English and French.

State size and number for each pattern.

Note price, to be included with order.

No. 1204—A tailored shirt is just right for separate skirts, slacks or pedal pushers. Front may be tucked or plain; collar included in pattern. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 requires $2\frac{3}{8}$ yards 36-inch or 2 yards 44-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 1131—Unpressed pleats give fullness to this casual skirt. Sizes $23\frac{1}{2}$, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 30-inch waist (11 to 18 years). Size 26 (14 years) requires 4 yards 36-inch or $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards 54-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. 1077—A jumper and overblouse or jacket forms the backbone of a school girl's mix-'n'-match costume. Jumper has square neckline. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 14 requires for jumper and jacket $3\frac{3}{8}$ yards 54-inch; jumper $3\frac{3}{8}$ yards 39-inch; jacket $1\frac{1}{4}$ yards 36-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 4971—There is an oriental influence to the easy-to-make, easy-to-wear two-piece pyjamas with short or long pants, and short sleeping coat. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 years. Size 14 pyjamas requires 4 yards 36-inch or $3\frac{3}{8}$ yards 52-inch; coat 2 yards 36-inch material. Price 35 cents.

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MONTHLY

Wheat Production Under Price Support (Continued)

In the Monthly Commentary for June we dealt at some length with price support programs for wheat in various importing and exporting countries. The price support level and method of implementation of such policies, in effect during 1954-55 in some principal nations, as compiled by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, is shown in the following summary:

Country	Price per Bushel Basis U.S. Dollars	General Comment
Algeria	\$2.64	Basic fixed price, average quality, at collection points. Premiums and discounts provided for quality.
Argentina	2.72	Guaranteed minimum. No. 2 semi-hard in bags, f.o.r. ports.
Australia	1.41	Guaranteed minimum, fair average quality, f.o.r. ports.
Austria	2.63	Average fixed price per bushel of 60.6 lbs. test weight, delivered at mills. Includes allowance for farm storage.
Belgium	2.56	Basic "directional" price per bushel of 56.7 lbs. test, delivered mills. Additional allowance for farm storage.
Canada	1.40	Guaranteed minimum, No. 1 Northern in store Ft. William/Port Arthur or Vancouver.
Chile	4.50	Average fixed price, average quality, delivered at collection points.
Egypt	2.18	Government purchase price, average quality. Free market price somewhat lower.
France	2.64	Fixed price, average quality, delivered collection points. Additional allowance for farm storage.
West Germany	2.72- 2.83	Average guaranteed price range, average quality, delivered market points. Includes allowance for farm storage.
India	1.52	Government purchase price, average quality, delivered collection centers. Free market price somewhat higher.
Ireland	2.39	Fixed price, 60 lb. test, delivered market centers. Additional allowance provided for farm storage.
Italy	3.05	Average government purchase price, average quality, delivered market centers. Free market prices for domestic wheat somewhat higher.
Japan	2.61	Fixed price, average quality, delivered collection points.
Netherlands	1.86	Average "directional" price, average quality, delivered collection centers. Includes allowance for farm storage.
New Zealand	1.59	Fixed price, average quality, delivered collection centers.
Norway	3.43	Basic fixed price, average quality, delivered collection centers.
Spain	2.73	Basic fixed price, average quality, delivered market centers. Additional allowance for farm storage.
Switzerland	4.19	Fixed price, delivered collection centers.
United Kingdom	2.30	Guaranteed price, average quality, delivered millers.
United States	2.24	National guaranteed average minimum, average quality, farm basis, March 31, 1955.
Yugoslavia	2.16	Government purchases, basis preharvest contracts, average quality, delivered collection centers.

Initial Grain Prices Unchanged

Speaking in the House of Commons on May 31, the Right Honorable C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced that the Canadian Government had approved initial prices paid by the Canadian Wheat Board on wheat, oats and barley for the crop year beginning August 1, 1955, at the same levels as during the current crop year. The initial prices for the 1955-56 crop year, therefore, will be as follows:

Wheat: \$1.40 per bushel basis No. 1 Northern in store Fort William/Port Arthur or Vancouver.

Oats: 65 cents per bushel, basis No. 2 C.W. in store Fort William/Port Arthur.

Barley: 96 cents per bushel basis No. 3 C.W. six-row in store Fort William/Port Arthur.

The Minister was questioned as to when grade spreads would be determined and whether they would be released in time to enable elevator agents to issue cash tickets for grain at the commencement of the crop year. In reply, he advised that grade spreads are established only after the quality of the new crop is known, stating he had never known the spreads to be established in time for the first grain shipments.

That the announcement was right and proper, both with respect to con-

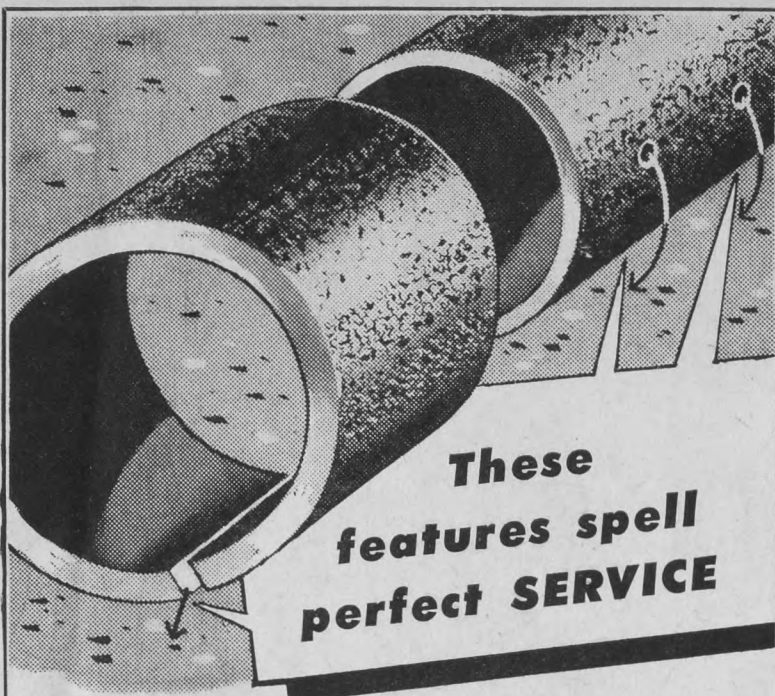
tent and timing, is borne out by general expression of approval from Prairie farmers. Producers will be reassured by the fact that they will receive an initial payment equal to that last year and the announcement proclaims to the world that the Canadian government is neither anticipating a collapse of the world's wheat markets nor is intending to engage in a fire-sale of the nation's wheat supplies.

U.S. Investigates Rye Imports

In response to a request from U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson, President Eisenhower last month instructed the Tariff Commission to investigate the effects imports of rye and rye products had upon the domestic price support program for that grain. Existing quotas on rye imports expired June 30 of the current year.

The President directed the Commission to determine whether rye and rye products "are practically certain to be imported into the U.S. after June 30 under such conditions and in such quantities as to render or tend to render ineffective or materially interfere with the price support program for rye . . . or to reduce substantially the amount of products processed in the U.S. from domestic rye."

The rye import question was first investigated by the commission last



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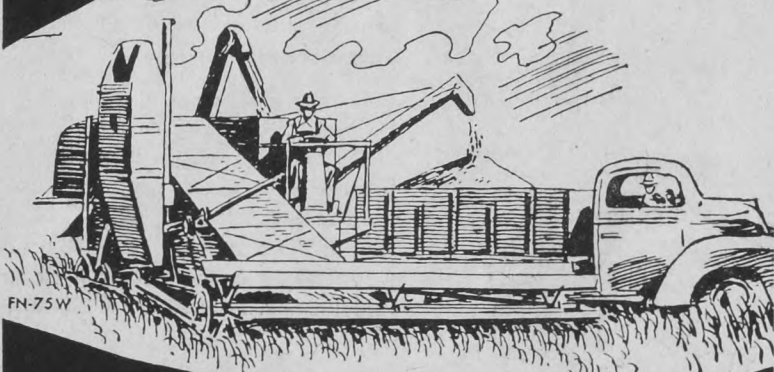
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COMMENTARY

year. As a result of its findings imports of rye and rye products were limited to 31 million pounds from April 1 to June 30, 1954, and to 186 million pounds from July 1, 1954 to June 30, 1955. A surplus of rye in the United States was largely responsible for the action taken at that time.

Since the quota established was almost entirely filled with imports of Canadian rye during July of the 1953-54 crop year little of the quota remained to be filled when the new crop year commenced on August 1, 1954. Consequently Canadian exports of rye to the U.S. have been negligible during the current crop year—approximately 100,000 bushels contrasted with some 13 million bushels during the first ten months of the 1953-54 year. The decline in sales to the U.S. has been offset only partially by increased shipments to overseas markets.

Visible rye supplies in all Canadian positions were reported by the Board of Grain Commissioners as 7.4 million bushels as of June 8, 1955. The supply at the same date a year ago was 6.4 million bushels. V

Additional Oats Quota Authorized

The Canadian Wheat Board on June 1 announced that Prairie producers with deliverable quantities of oats would be permitted a supplementary quota of 1,000 bushels. This special quota is in addition to previously authorized quotas and is granted to each holder of a delivery permit book regardless of the acreage shown.

The special quota was authorized in order that the Board might be assured of sufficient oats to meet market requirements. The Board said it wanted to obtain larger supplies of all grades of oats than were being delivered by producers at the present time.

From August 1, 1954, to June 8, 1955, producers had delivered to the Board some 52 million bushels of oats compared with 72 million bushels during the same period of the previous crop year. Probably not more than 20 million bushels remain in producers' storage at the present time so that the actual supply of this grain is not large and no more than sufficient to meet current demand. The U.S. import quota restrictions of 40 million bushels which caused some concern last year will be far from being filled with Canadian oats. V

Secretary of Agriculture Benson on Wheat Policy

U.S. policies in wheat production and marketing have been undergoing a process of change, frequently eluding appraisal during the past two years but the words of Mr. Ezra T. Benson in his Regina address on June 14 left little doubt as to the intent and plans of the present administration. Nor was there little doubt as to the implication for Canadian wheat producers—greater competition in the international markets for high quality wheat.

Firstly, Canada can entertain no expectation or hope that U.S. wheat exports will drop to the pre-war level

of some 40 million bushels per year. Mr. Benson destroyed any such illusion when he said,

We are not engaging in any cut-throat race for markets—and we have no intention of doing so. We do feel that our fair share of the world market is something more than the 250,000,000 bushels we are exporting this marketing year—and we hope to boost that total, always by fair means, in the years ahead.

Secondly, Canadian producers can expect greater U.S. competition in their own special field of high quality hard spring wheat. For several months U.S. grain experts have been decrying the quality and standards of American wheat exports. Obviously Mr. Benson has heeded these warnings as indicated by the following statement:

We are seeking to improve the quality of U.S. wheat in many ways. First, we are now favorably considering a loan rate discount schedule which would be applied against inferior wheat varieties grown in 1956. Such a program could be a real deterrent to production of undesirable wheat varieties.

Second, we have undertaken a comprehensive review of official wheat standards which have had no major revision since 1934.

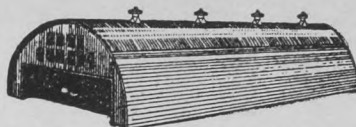
Third, we will launch this year a broad scale try-out in the field of a new and improved method of testing the potential bread-baking quality of wheat.

On a number of occasions before American audiences the Secretary has referred to the high volume of low quality wheat which has been taken over by the Commodity Credit Corporation. It has been estimated that some 41 per cent of the last two U.S. crops fall within this category. This has resulted from high price incentives which, during the war years at least, encouraged wholesale expansion of wheat production in uneconomic areas. To some extent U.S. producers of hard spring wheat have been penalized by a policy encouraging the production of inferior grades which to a very large extent have been unsalable in export markets. It is this situation which Mr. Benson hopes to correct by initiating a "loan rate discount schedule" which would place a premium return, presumably through the price support system, on the higher quality grades of milling wheat. In any event the objective is to improve the quality of United States wheat which in turn means stiffer competition for our Canadian milling grades of hard red spring wheat.

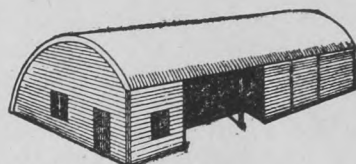
Mr. Benson's statements were both frank and friendly; Canadian producers can take assurance from his promise that the U.S. will not engage in cut-throat competition but at the same time they are forewarned as to what they may expect in the world wheat markets. V



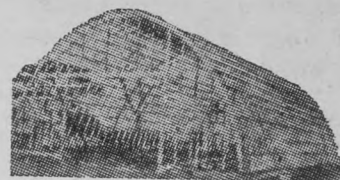
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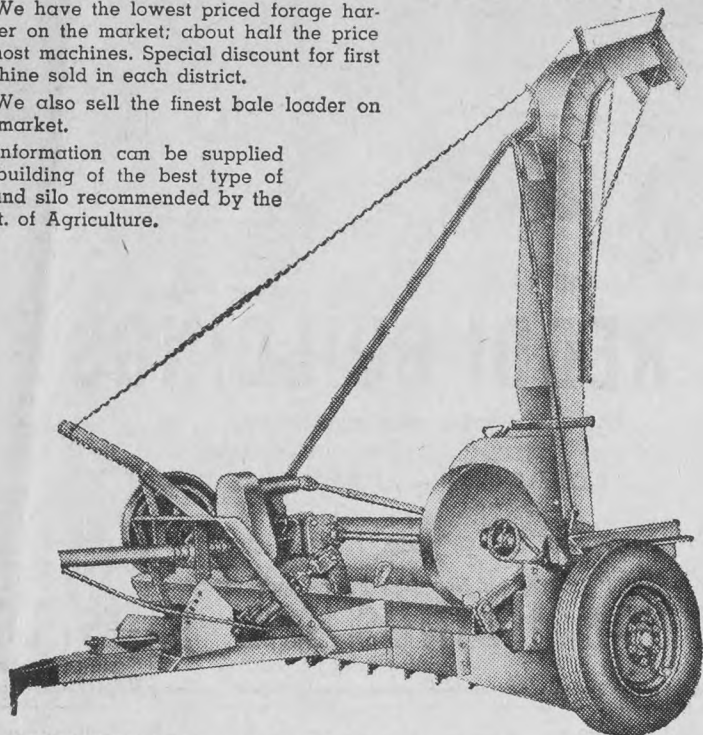
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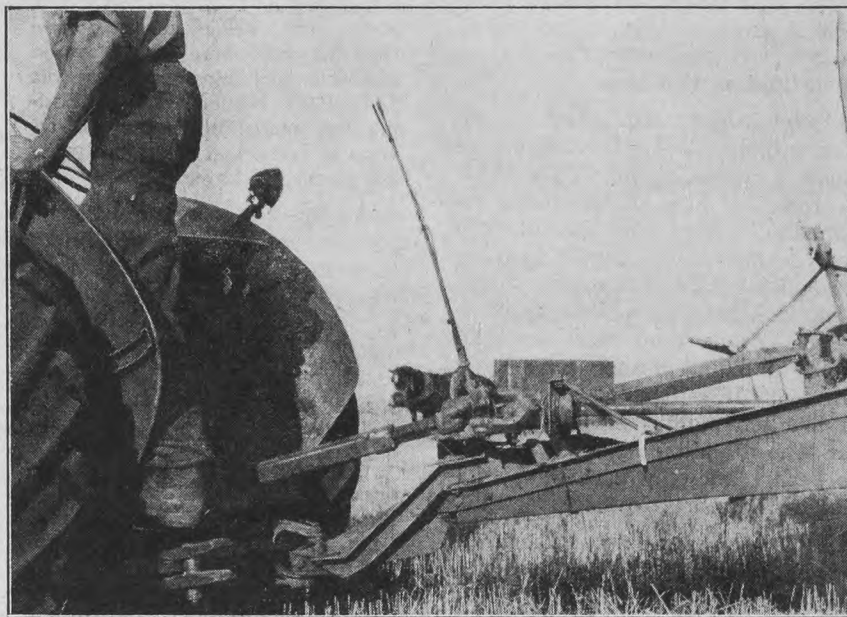
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Remember Farm Safety

Farm Safety Week should draw farm dweller's attention to heavy toll taken by accidents which are preventable



The heel was torn right off this tractor operator's boot by the uncovered power take-off shaft shown in this picture.

IN an effort to reduce injury and loss of life to farm residents, the Saskatchewan government has proclaimed the week July 24 to 30 as "Farm Safety Week." Last year, 87 farm residents lost their lives in accidents that happened during farm work or on the home premises, most of them were preventable. This year the toll is mounting again.

Although fewer than in the two preceding years, tractor mishaps led the fatalities list as the chief cause of death. Tractors either upset and crushed their victims, or pinned them against other equipment, or to the ground—one farmer got caught in a tractor power take-off. There were 11 deaths involving other machinery, most of them caused when operators tried to make adjustments while the equipment was moving. Haybalers and swathers were among the machines mishandled in this way.

Accidents not involving machinery accounted for several deaths. Fifteen

farm residents were drowned, the majority of them in dugouts on their own land. Deaths from handling livestock, which at one time amounted to about 25 a year, accounted for five fatalities, and firearm accidents caused three more. Several people succumbed as a result of falls in their homes, or on the farm premises; there were two electrocutions, as well as many other cases where farm people suffered shock, and had close escapes from death by high voltage.

Although no data has been compiled on the number of farm residents who were injured, but not killed, in accidents last year, they are thought to make up a good percentage of the 13,157 Saskatchewan residents who received hospital treatment for accidental injuries. During Farm Safety Week it will be stressed that farm mechanization and electrification have brought attendant dangers as well as benefits, and that farm people should realize these hazards and develop sound safety habits.

Agricultural Institute: 35th Annual Convention

Nearly 500 delegates and members of the Agricultural Institute of Canada meet at the University of Alberta, Edmonton

"SERVICE to Agriculture," was the theme of the 35th annual meeting and convention of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, when it met late last month at the University of Alberta, in Edmonton. Approximately 500 delegates and members were registered, in addition to a large number of women and children for whom a separate program had been provided. Of the four days occupied by the convention only two were devoted to general sessions of the Institute. The remaining time was utilized, including some evening sessions, by the two special sections, and six of the seven scientific societies affiliated with the Institute, each of which held three full sessions and some of them four.

Altogether, aside from the proceedings at the general sessions of the Institute, a total of 131 papers were delivered on many aspects of farm science, at the specialized meetings. Speakers represented universities, provincial departments of agriculture, and many units of the Canada Department of Agriculture. A few were present from the United States, notably from Connecticut, Illinois and Iowa.

Two of the three general sessions were devoted to the business of the Institute and to the receiving of reports from standing and special committees. The third was given over to an elaboration of the convention theme. During this session, the guest speaker, H. H. Hannam, president and



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managing-director of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, spoke to the question, "Does professional agriculture serve effectively?" This was followed by a symposium of which Andrew Stewart, president of the University of Alberta, was chairman. There were three speakers: Senator J. A. Godbout, Quebec, on "Does research supply the information?"; William MacGillivray, deputy minister of agriculture for British Columbia, who spoke to the question, "Does the farmer get the information?"; and H. L. Patterson, director, Farm Economics Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, who discussed "Our place in the marketing field."

The retiring president, J. C. Hackney, Vancouver, was the first to strike at the need for closer co-operation between professional agriculturists and farmers. "All-out service to grass roots agriculture is our first and most important function," he said. . . . "We don't have to question the important role of agriculture in the world of tomorrow. Rapidly increasing population, with limited potential areas for new production point clearly to the necessity of improved methods for more intensive and efficient production. The professional agriculturist will continue to make an invaluable contribution to the problem of feeding the multitude."

H. H. Hannam, in an address that was much appreciated, said:

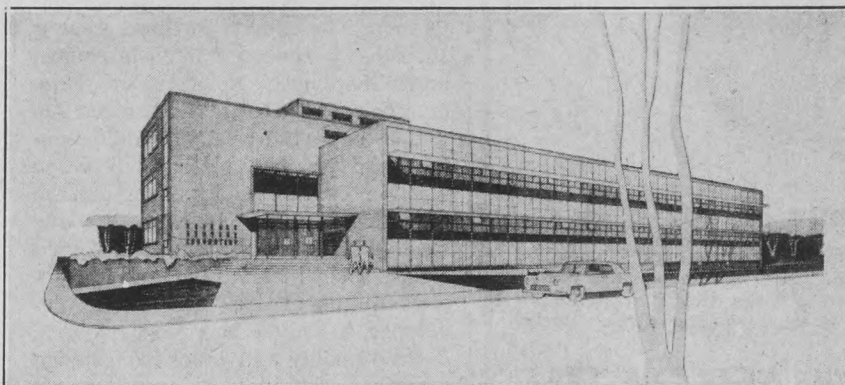
"When one looks across the national field in this country one cannot help but be impressed by the intensive organization of professional agricultural workers, and by the fact that, collectively, they are providing one of the most advanced agricultural research and extension programs to be found in any part of the world."

"The practical farmer and the professional agriculturist are inseparably linked in one task vitally important for national well-being—that of developing and maintaining a highly efficient agriculture designed to conserve the soil, to provide plenty of good wholesome food for the people of Canada, at as low a price as is economically possible, and to produce food and at the same time keep the cost of production low enough to hold our place in world mar-

kets for our substantial export trade.

"We are living in rapidly changing times. The only thing that doesn't change is the need for constant change. In the dynamic society of our day we must recognize this need for change and try to keep ahead of the parade, by adjusting our techniques in science and practice, according to the challenge of the times."

The Agricultural Institute of Canada will hold its next annual meeting and convention in Toronto under the presidency of Dr. C. E. Goulden, recently appointed director of the Canada Experimental Farm Service. Succeeding Dr. Goulden will be Wallace Thompson, Greenwood Farm, Pense, Sask. Mr. Thompson is an extensive grain farmer who was recently made president-elect of the Institute. V



Architect's drawing of the new plant pathology laboratory to be erected on the campus of the University of Manitoba by the Science Service of the Canada Dept. of Agriculture.



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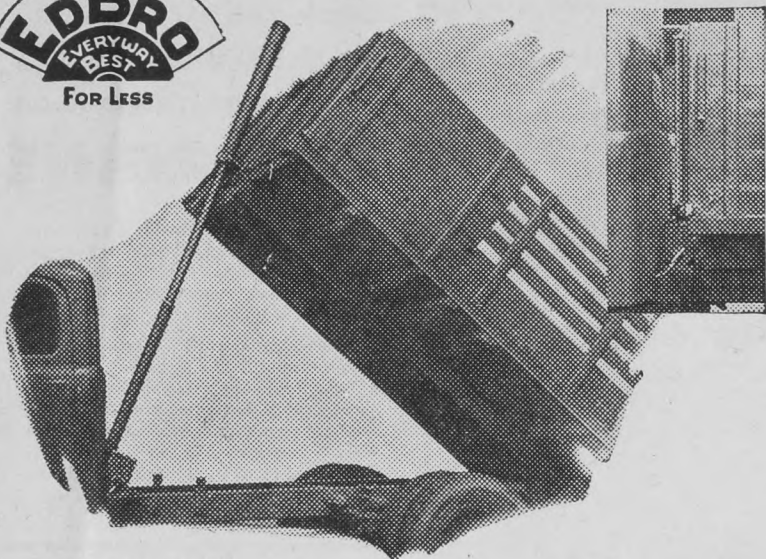
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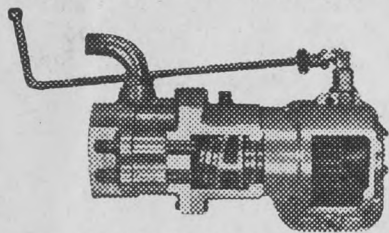
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Sugar Beet Seed Industry

THE sugar beet is a biennial, producing the sugar root during the first growing season; if these roots are dug and stored under favorable conditions of temperature and moisture, they will produce seed when planted next season. Up until 20 years ago, the American beet sugar industry depended on European sources for sugar beet seed. But since that time, a well-directed agricultural research program has resulted in the development of an American beet seed industry.

Sugar beet raising in the United States has been centered in a few localities in Arizona, California, and Oregon. The climate in these areas is such that beet seed planted in August and September develops a large enough root so that it can successfully live through the relatively mild winters, and produce a seed stalk when the following spring. Because of the tangled mass of foliage and beet seed stalks, special harvesting and threshing equipment has had to be developed to handle this crop.

Seed quality and yields have shown a marked improvement over the past ten years as a result of better agricultural practices. These include proper fertilization, improved irrigation methods, and the use of more effective insecticides, and have resulted in a general yield increase of from less than 2,000 pounds to more than 4,000 pounds per acre.

All the costly hand labor methods of the European growers have been eliminated in the American beet seed industry. The first major step was the development of a drillable seed which greatly reduced the labor required for beet thinning. Normal beet seed contains more than one embryo and varies widely in size. To make it adaptable to seed drills, it was mechanically reduced in size so that it ranged from seven to ten sixty-fourths of an inch, and contained a smaller number of loculi per seed unit. Planted with recently developed precision seed drills, this new processed seed is placed an inch or more apart in the seed row. These uniformly spaced seedling stands can be thinned with either down-the-row or across-the-row thinning machinery, which cuts costs and speeds up production.

The American sugar beet varieties have proved to be better adapted to growing conditions in the varied climates where sugar beets are grown in this country, than the European product. Plant breeders are now working on hybrid varieties, and also seeking to produce a single germ seed. The increased yields expected from these new varieties, plus a promise of further mechanization through the use of single germ seed, is expected to entice an increasing number of farmers into growing sugar beets.

Credit. An article entitled "Left Over Tractor" appeared on Page 64 of our April issue, and carried a picture of the home-built tractor. Credit for the picture should have been given to Ben Nicholson, who supplied the photograph. ✓

FIRST RAIN MAKER

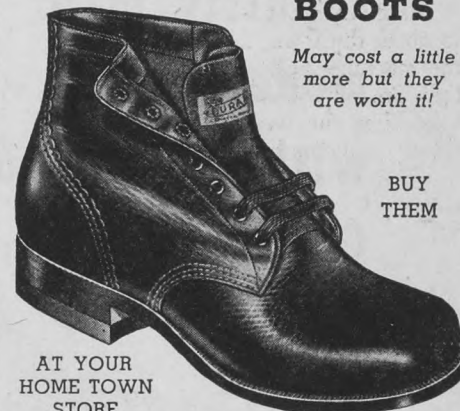


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The Country Boy and Girl



successive calls. Most people know this bird from its call, but not so many people have seen it. It sleeps all day in the deep woods and only flies into open country after dark. This mottled dark-brown, grey and buff bird with black and white feathers blends so beautifully with its surroundings that it is very hard to find as it squats on a log or rock. It has a funny short beak but a very large mouth which it keeps open as it flies and thus catches a stream of mosquitoes, June bugs, moths and other night flying insects. Long, stiff bristles inside its mouth make it impossible for the insects to get out of its mouth. Even the eggs of the whip-poor-will are hard to find for though the mother makes no nest her eggs laid on the open ground are almost invisible except to sharp, watchful eyes.

Ann Sankey

Magic Soap Flakes

by Mary Grannan

WILLIE SNOW wasn't any too pleased, when his mother called him, to go to the corner grocery store. Willie was playing with his train, and it had just run into a freight at a siding, under his bed. Willie was sending a special out to rescue the crew, when his mother called him.

He was frowning, when he came into the kitchen. "My, my!" said his mother, laughing, "have you swallowed a thunder cloud?"

"No, Mum," said Willie, suddenly, "but do I have to go to the grocery store this very minute? There's a train-wreck under my bed. I was just sending out a special crew to rescue it, and now I have to go to the store."

His mother nodded. "Yes, you have to go to the store. I have my wash in the machine, and I've just discovered that I'm out of soap flakes. You can look after the wreck under the bed, when you come back."

Willie sighed. Sometimes his mother didn't understand. "What kind of flakes do you want, Mum?" he asked. "The same as I always get, dear. White Wonder! I'm really sorry to disturb your game, but I can't help it. Now hurry along!"

As Willie trudged along the street, he was thinking about his train game. It might be fun to rescue the wreck, by sending his helicopter. But no, that wouldn't do. The helicopter would have to come from the sky, and the train was under the bed. Next time, he'd have a wreck out in the open, so's he could drop supplies from the air. He went into the shop.

"Good morning, Willie," said old Mr. Doolittle. "What can I do for you, today?"

"My mother would like a package of White Wonder soap flakes, please."

Mr. Doolittle went to the shelf, and as he reached for the soap, he said, "Small, medium, or giant size, Willie?"

"Mum didn't say, Mr. Doolittle," answered Willie, "but I'll take the giant size, that'll last longer, and Mum won't have to spoil my train games, by sending me on errands."

Mr. Doolittle placed the package on the counter and shook his head at the scowling little Willie. "If I were

you, Willie, I'd never complain about doing a favor for my mother. When you get annoyed, just stop and think of all the things she does for you. I wouldn't be surprised if the clothes that she's going to wash are yours."

Willie blushed. Mr. Doolittle was right. He reached for the soap flakes, and nodded. Mr. Doolittle knew that the blushing Willie was embarrassed, so he changed the subject, by asking Willie if he wanted anything else.

"No, sir, just the White Wonder." "We've some free samples here," said Mr. Doolittle, "take one to your mother. This is a brand new soap, they say it cleans like magic."

Willie thanked Mr. Doolittle, and as he took the package, he looked at it, and laughed. A perky little duck on the package seemed to be looking him straight in the eye. He showed the duck to the storekeeper.

"Well, upon my word," said Mr. Doolittle. "That's the first time I've noticed him. It's a wonder I didn't, too, because they call the new soap flakes Ducky Suds."

"What kind of a duck is he, sir?" The storekeeper shook his head. "I don't know what kind he is," he said, "but I do know what kind he isn't. He's not a mallard, or a baldpate or a canvas back. Perhaps if he's magic, he'll tell you himself, Willie."

Willie's eyes widened in anticipation. He knew suddenly that Mr. Doolittle was right. This magic duck would tell him who he was.

It happened just as Willie turned into the driveway. The duck's wings fluttered, and his eyes turned up to look into Willie's. Willie sat down on the grass, "You are magic, aren't you?"

The duck said, "No, I'm an eider-down."

Willie laughed. "I still think you're magic," he said, "because any duck on a soap package, who can talk, is magic. Where did you come from, and how did you get on the box?"

Eiderdown told Willie his story. He had come from Alaska, far to the north, and that his nest was there, and that it was lined with feathers from his own back. He added proudly, that his feathers were the softest in the world, and they were used for stuffing the finest furniture and quilts. "But I flew east, because I wanted to

meet my cousins, who live along the Atlantic coast. I didn't get there. I would like to go home again, and see my folks."

Before Willie could sympathize with the little duck, his mother called. "Willie," she said, "I'm waiting, dear. Do bring the soap to me."

Willie hurried into the house, and showed the magic package to his mother. "Please, may I keep this? It's a free sample, and Eiderdown wants to go home to Alaska."

Mrs. Snow's eyes twinkled. "I'll tell you what we'll do, Willie. I'll use the flakes in the package, for the wash, and then you cut Eiderdown from the box. He'll get a chance to spread his wings, if he's freed. Then you can rescue the wrecked train under the bed, and the two of you can go out to Vancouver. Take along your helicopter, and fly from Vancouver to Alaska. How's that for an idea?"

Willie thought the idea was an excellent one. Once the empty box was in his hands, he ran for the scissors. He cut Eiderdown from the package. Eiderdown spread his wide wings gratefully, and tottered around the

room to stretch his cramped legs. Willie soon had the express train ready. In a few minutes they were speeding across the prairies and over the mountains. As they pulled into the station at Vancouver, Willie heard his name called.

"Willie, Willie, lunch is ready."

"It's Mum," said Willie, "lunch is ready and I'm hungry."

"But how about Alaska?" said Eiderdown. "Aren't we going to see my folks?"

"No," laughed Willie, "because you haven't got any folks in Alaska. We're just pretending and you know it. You're not a real duck, but I'm a real boy, and I'm starving." Willie put the cardboard duck into his pocket.

He ran to the kitchen. "Well," said Mrs. Snow, "how were things in Alaska?"

Willie laughed again. "We didn't get that far, but it was fun, as far as we went. We both had a good time, and Mum, I'm glad you sent me on the errand. Next time you ask me to do something for you, I won't look as if I'd swallowed a thunder cloud."

"Good for you," quacked Eiderdown, from Willie's pocket.

Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 41 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



FRESH gravel thrown out beside an old stump: a shadowy den under the tangled roots of a blowdown; never yet have I been able to pass them by without stopping to investigate these tantalizing mysteries. Who knows what rare creature may lie concealed behind that gloomy opening?

In any case, if the inhabitant is an animal, he will not likely appreciate a formal call. The best way to see him is to come back quietly an hour or two before sunset and conceal yourself where you can see the den opening and prepare to watch until the daylight is gone. Almost all animals go out to feed or travel about sunrise and again at evening.

In the meantime, you could be making a drawing. At first sight such a formidable tangle of roots, bushes and tree trunks may seem a discouraging subject. Where can you begin? The answer, of course is: begin with the point of greatest interest — the dark opening under the stump. This will likely be the darkest part of the

scene. Draw that and with your eye, estimate the shapes of other patches of dark and light surrounding it. The angle and thickness of the more important roots, branches, and tree trunks can be lightly indicated and the shadow areas filled in as you get on with the sketch.

A fountain pen is excellent for this kind of scribbling because you are really sketching in the scene. Do not worry about getting some lines down incorrectly. Just draw through them, and gradually darken the shadow areas, until you can see the actual scene taking shape on the paper. Do not try to draw the countless leaves, grass stems and tiny twigs you see. Draw only the mass shapes you see with your eyes almost closed. The small and unimportant details will then appear as one general tone. Try a sketch like this with black and white wash, using only four tones: light grey, medium grey and black; the white paper gives you the highlights.

THE Country GUIDE

with which is incorporated

THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM and HOME
Serving the farmers of Western Canada Since 1883

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Mr. Benson in Canada

THOSE who had the opportunity of hearing Secretary Benson speak in Regina last month, at the semi-annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, enjoyed a memorable experience. It was the first time a U.S. Secretary of Agriculture had spoken in Canada during his term of office.

Secretary Benson appears to his hearers to be a sincere, earnest, capable, affable and devout person. He spoke frankly, and with the authority, not only of his very responsible office, but of conviction. He is the respected head of the vast organization which serves, directly, 5,300,000 U.S. farmers, and indirectly, a population of 165 million people. Furthermore, he probably inherited more headaches when he assumed office than any previous secretary of agriculture, with the possible exception of the first secretary under Franklin D. Roosevelt in the early thirties.

Mr. Benson put the U.S. situation and the attitude of the United States Government with respect to farm surpluses right on the line,—to use a colloquial expression. Not all that he said, especially with respect to grain, would meet with the approval of all who heard him. But at least he was frank, and took pains to lay the core of the huge surplus problem of the United States frankly before his hearers. This core he believed to be the continuation of high, rigid, price supports,—originally intended as an emergency measure,—until long after the emergency had passed. He was able to point to specific achievements to the credit of his flexible support policy, which the Congress approved last year, but which only becomes operative on certain products after this year's crops are harvested.

Mr. Benson did not come to Canada as a stranger. He has at one time or another visited almost every Canadian province. He was, therefore, able to feel more or less at home among the neighbors. This was as it should be. Canada has not always been happy living next door to a Republican administration in the United States. We are not exactly happy now, but we have ample reason to know that the United States has grown a long way from its earlier insularity, and that between the governments of our two countries there is a very high degree of basic friendliness, good will and mutual respect that is in keeping with our long undefended border. We feel certain that Mr. Benson will continue to earn a cordial welcome in Canada, whenever, and for whatever reason, he may come to visit us again. V

A Problem in Economics

"AGRICULTURE," said the Federal Minister of Agriculture in a recent Toronto address, "is the most important industry in Canada." He quoted 1952 figures to show that farm production was worth more in dollars than the total production from all other primary industries combined, including forestry, mining, fishing, trapping, and electric power. Also, he said, agriculture in 1953 produced more than one-quarter in value of all commodities exported from Canada.

As this is written, press despatches quote the Minister of Trade and Commerce as having predicted that "1955 probably will be the most prosperous year in Canada's history," and it is reported that our gross national product this year, which fell off two per cent in 1954 because of poor western grain crops, showed an increase of four per cent during the first quarter of this year and was running at the rate of \$25 billion per year.

All of these figures are, of course, very interesting. Nevertheless, agriculture appears to occupy an anomalous position in the midst of on-rushing prosperity for the remainder of the economy. If it is true—and no farmer doubts it—that agriculture is the most important single industry in the Canadian economy, farmers could reasonably expect to be sharing in the dividends from prosperity. It may be that providence will look more kindly on them this year, and permit the index of productivity in agriculture to rise. At 114.3 last year, it reached its lowest level since 1945. Volume of production, however, is not synonymous with net income. Prices received and prices paid by farmers are powerful influences in determining net income.

The disturbing fact about the agricultural situation to farmers is the decline in prices of farm products. It is generally true that what goes up must come down; and after a 12-year rise in the index number of farm prices, some decline since the record high of 296.8 in 1951 is not surprising. What hurts is the fact that many costs have continued to rise. Moreover, the average of farm costs has not declined in proportion to the decline in farm prices, which dropped 64.8 points in four years, with a further decline of about 16 points indicated for the first three months of 1955.

This disparity in behavior between agriculture and the rest of the economy demands some serious economic research. What is needed is to determine if possible, how much of the disparity between the behavior of farm prices and farm costs is chargeable to the biological nature of agriculture, including the weather; how much to the wide dispersal of farming and of farm production; and how much to the advances of science and technology. Is the farmer's declining share of the consumer's food dollar also involved? Is agriculture fated to live with this kind of thing forever, or can the industry, or society in general, do something about it?

Economists must sooner or later achieve some clarification of this basic agricultural problem. If it requires research, the work should be done. It is not enough to say that events transpired this way in the days of our forefathers. We are not now living in those days. Agriculture needs to know,—and economists must find the answer,—whether the disparity is inevitable and immutable, or whether its impact can be lessened or eliminated. In any case, what are the respective obligations of agriculture and of society in general: where do self-help in agriculture and the mutual interests of all segments of the Canadian economy meet, in Canada? V

Key to Rural Progress

THE vastly complicated business of a nation's agriculture prohibits an easy approach to its problems. Basically, of course, these are not the problems of an industry, but of human beings numbering millions; of people, whose achievements and culture are a measure of our success as a nation. Practically, in agriculture, our ability to succeed is largely determined by the efficiency with which some 600,000 separate farm enterprises are conducted. It is here that innumerable problems must be faced, and it is from here that all of the many ramifications of agriculture begin.

Today, our concept of the world is different from that of our fathers and our grandfathers. The individual is more honored and less independent. Since World War II our interdependence has become much more real and generally recognized. As a result, community is a much more potent force; and in rural areas is emerging as the main-spring of rural progress. W. B. Baker, chairman of the Saskatchewan Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life, emphasized this factor, in a recent address:

"The community," he said, "is indeed the crucible of rural development. The spontaneity and the dynamism with which communities are able to tackle their problems, constitute, in my opinion, the people's integral liberty. If our communities cannot, on their own initiative, develop an economy which has founded, or has hopes of being founded, on a consistent productive effort which permeates the life of the community, then we can expect to

see other forms of life and liberty impeded, or decayed, or destroyed."

There is, today, a multiplicity of organizations, and rural leaders in almost every community are harassed by this fact. There are so many demands on their time that they dread the thought of another organization. Nevertheless, it is unfortunate, and could in time become a tragedy, that with so many organizations for special purposes, there is so little time left for an organization to represent the mutual interests of the entire community. It appears that modern civilization must organize to progress, and if this is true, some method must be found of unifying individual communities. There is much truth in Professor Baker's further statement that "It is in defining the appropriate balance between the responsibilities of communities and of governments that the great battles of political philosophy are being fought today." V

Hidden Taxes

UNDER the general heading used here, several papers were given last month at Edmonton at a meeting of the Agricultural Pesticides Technical Society held in connection with the annual convention of the Agricultural Institute of Canada. Separate papers were given dealing with the losses due to decreases in farm production and increases in costs, as a result of infestations of weeds and insects, and the occurrence of diseases of plants.

There is an old saying that figures don't lie but liars can figure. There is some truth in it, and anyone attempting to estimate the gross dollar loss to an industry such as agriculture, from a particular class of pests or diseases is risking his reputation to some extent. Nevertheless, such estimates, while unverifiable, are useful, in that they highlight the gross damage to crops or livestock in very striking fashion. They may also be taken as approximating the facts.

Insects, for example, are thought to be responsible for a loss of between \$300 million and \$400 million in Canada. "In other words," said one speaker, "if all insect damage could be eliminated, the effect would be equivalent to the addition to Canada of an eleventh province having an agricultural production equal to that of Manitoba."

The Country Guide some time ago published estimates as to the losses in western Canada from weeds. These were again presented in Edmonton and amount to \$255 million annually, or an average of \$1,028 for all prairie farms. For all of Canada the estimate was about one-third of a billion dollars. It was reported that in 1952, dockage from the prairie grain harvest totalled 300 grain loads of 50 cars each, yet the total dollar loss from dockage was only one-quarter of the estimated loss due to the competition which weeds offer to crops. Other costs arise from additional tillage control, from delayed seeding and the cost of chemical control. The official estimate of weed losses in Ontario for example is more than \$40 million, or \$4.65 per acre.

Losses from plant diseases were not estimated in this manner. Last year's loss from wheat rust alone in western Canada was estimated to have cost \$200 million, and the direct and indirect losses brought about by plant diseases would undoubtedly be responsible for a surprisingly high figure.

A short time ago Dr. Kenneth Wells, Veterinary Director-General, Ottawa, told the Saskatchewan Stock Growers' Association that animal diseases were causing millions of dollars of loss each year; the loss due to shipping fever alone being approximately \$3.5 million. He reported that 1,910,000 pigs died before slaughter in 1953. Of six million pigs marketed, 18,500 were condemned, 3,880 were dead on arrival, and parts of 1,300,000 were cut off and thrown away on inspection.

These are indeed disturbing figures, not only because of their significance in dollar values, but also because of the aggregate amount of carelessness and poor farming which they suggest. To believe that all of these losses could be eliminated would be highly unrealistic, but to believe that they could be very substantially reduced to the distinct advantage of farmers generally, requires only some common sense. V

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